The Three Stooges®

01 US 3.99

#ThreeStooges

THE THREE STOOGES: THE BOYS ARE BACK #1

Welcome to the brand new Three Stooges comic books from American Mythology! We are incredibly honored to bring The Boys back to comic books with adventures written and illustrated by Stooge fans! Every creator to contribute has grown up watching the antics of Larry, Moe, and Curly and now we all have the chance to give back to their legacy of laughs. And this special issue marks two historic firsts! Our QR Code cover by Greg LaRocque is the very first comic to let you watch a Three Stooges short right off the cover with your smart phone! And we are pleased to be the first comic book to create comics based off the Three Stooges actual actor likenesses. No fake Shemps here! Enjoy!

TRIPLE KNUCKLEHEADER

Writer: S.A. Check
Artist: Bill Galvan
Inker: Bob Smith
Colors & Lettering: Adrian Ropp

THE BIG NYUK, NYUK, NYUK

Writer: J.C. Vaughn
Art & Inking: Brendon & Brian Fraim
Coloring: Travis Walton
Lettering: Natalie Jane

MIDWAY MADNESS

Originally published in
Dell Four Color #1170 (1942)
Writer: Jerry Belson
Artist: Sparky Moore

Main Cover: Chris Scalf
QR Subscription cover: Greg LaRocque

Publisher: Michael Bornstein
Marketing Manager: Barlow Jones

Special thanks to James Kuhoric, J.C. Vaughn, S.A. Check, and Mark Haynes

Extra special thanks to Ani Khachoian, Eric Lamond, Jessica Jun, and all of the Three Stooges Family members.

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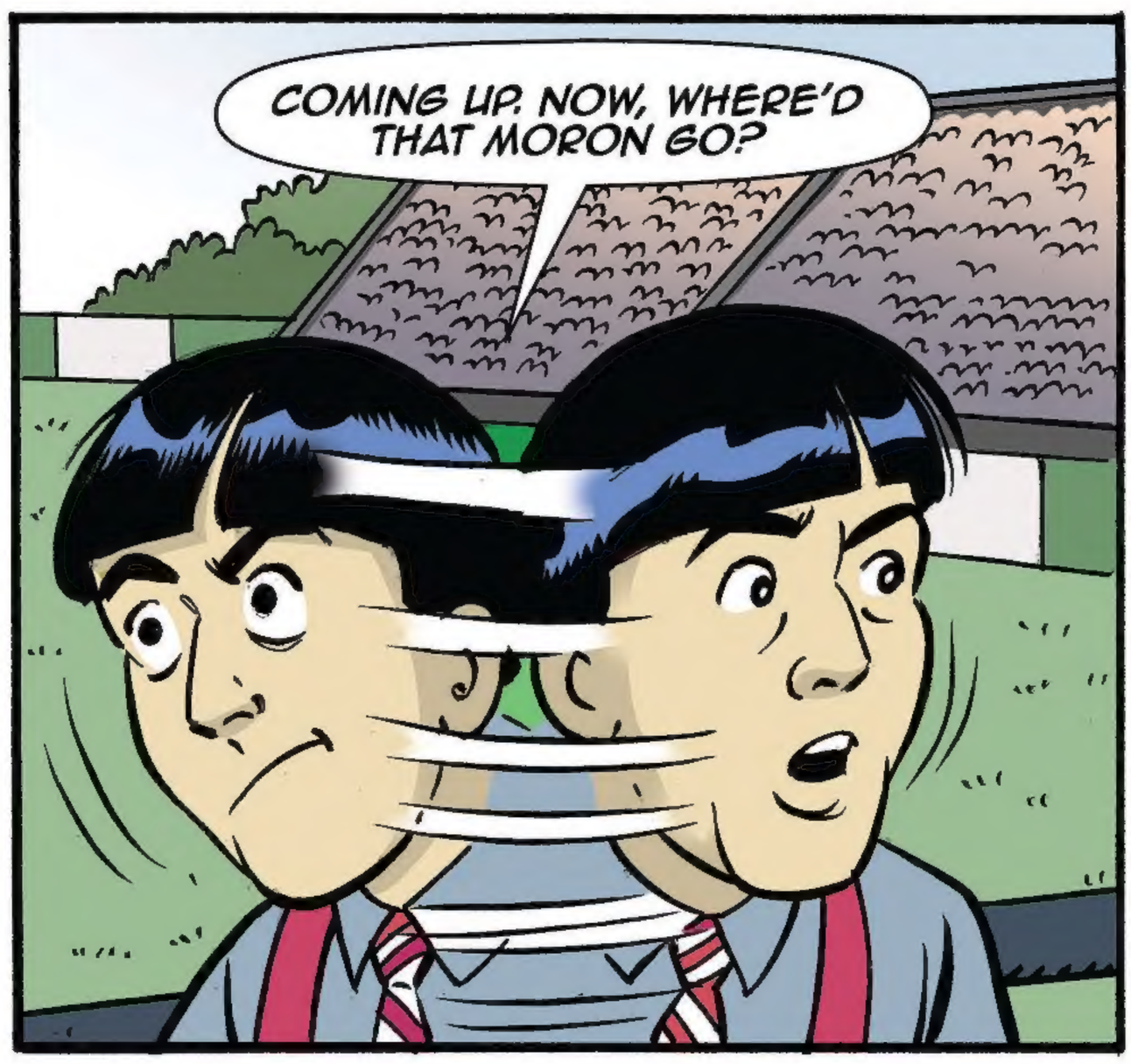
TRIPLE KNUCKLE HEADER

SUMMER – A TIME FOR SUN, FUN, AND AMERICA'S FAVORITE PAST TIME – BASEBALL!

STORY – S.A. CHECK
PENCILS – BILL GALVAN
INKS – BOB SMITH
COLORS/LETTERS – ADRIAN ROPP

WHERE EVEN IN A CROWD OF THOUSANDS, YOU CAN STILL FIND A *DIAMOND* IN THE ROUGH.



THESE ARE THE BEST SEATS IN THE WHOLE JOINT.
#1

ENJOYING THE GAME?
BOY, AM I. THIS ONE'S A REAL ZINGER.

SPLOOSH!
I'LL GIVE YOU A ZINGER!
OH...OH...OH!
#1

SOME GUY IN ROW THREE WANTS TO WET HIS WHISTLE. WHERE'S THE BEACHBALL?
THEY SAID THEY WANTED HIM OUT ON THE FIELD.

I'M GONNA MURDERIZE HIM.

HEY, MOE! LOOK AT ME! I'M A BELTBUCKLER!
SOUND THE CANNON!
WHO? ME? I CAN'T DO THE CAN-CAN.
SOUND THE CANNON! SOUND THE CANNON!
HERE GOES NOTHING.
THOOM!

OH, BOY!

THOOM! THOOM!
THOOM! THOOM!

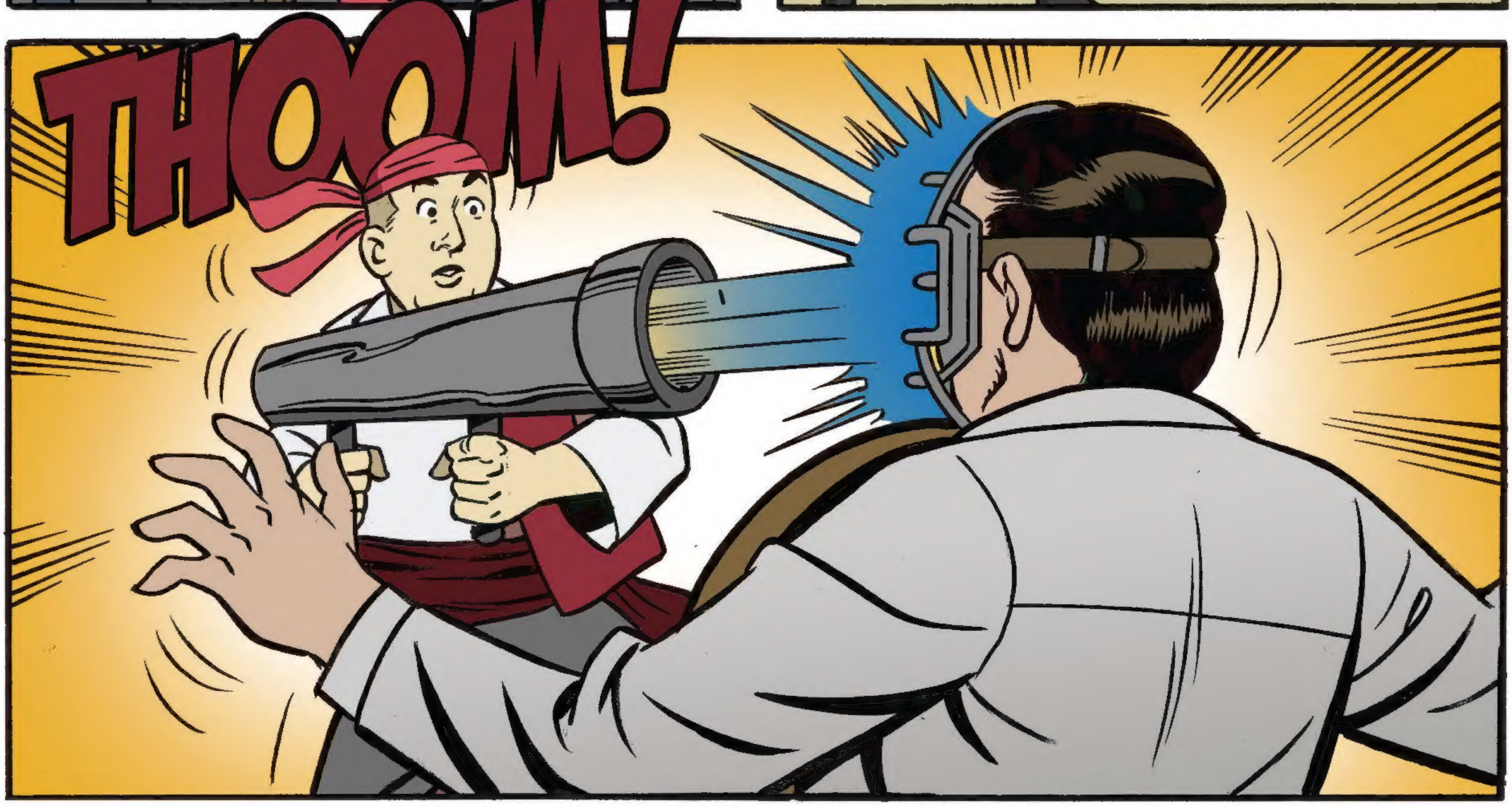
LOOK OUT!

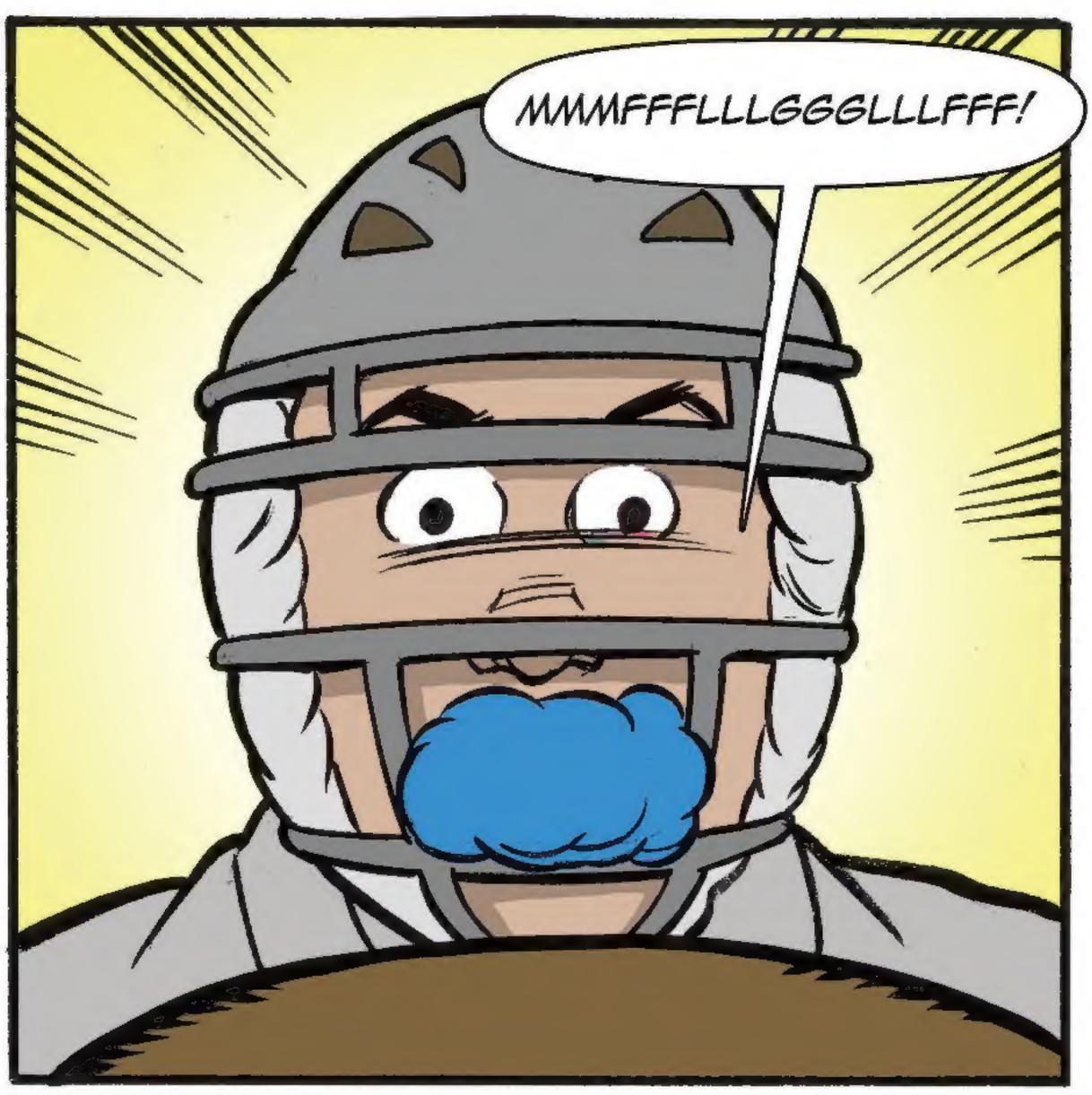
I'M GLAD YOU FINALLY AGREED TO GO OUT WITH ME.

MY HAIR!

C'MON, FLATBUSH! HE'S GONE COMMANDO!
IT'S A T-SHIRT ARMAGEDDON!

THOOM! THOOM! THOOM!
WHADDYATHINK YOUREDOING? PUTTHATTHINGAWAY!


THOOM!


MMMFFFLLLGGGLLLFFF!

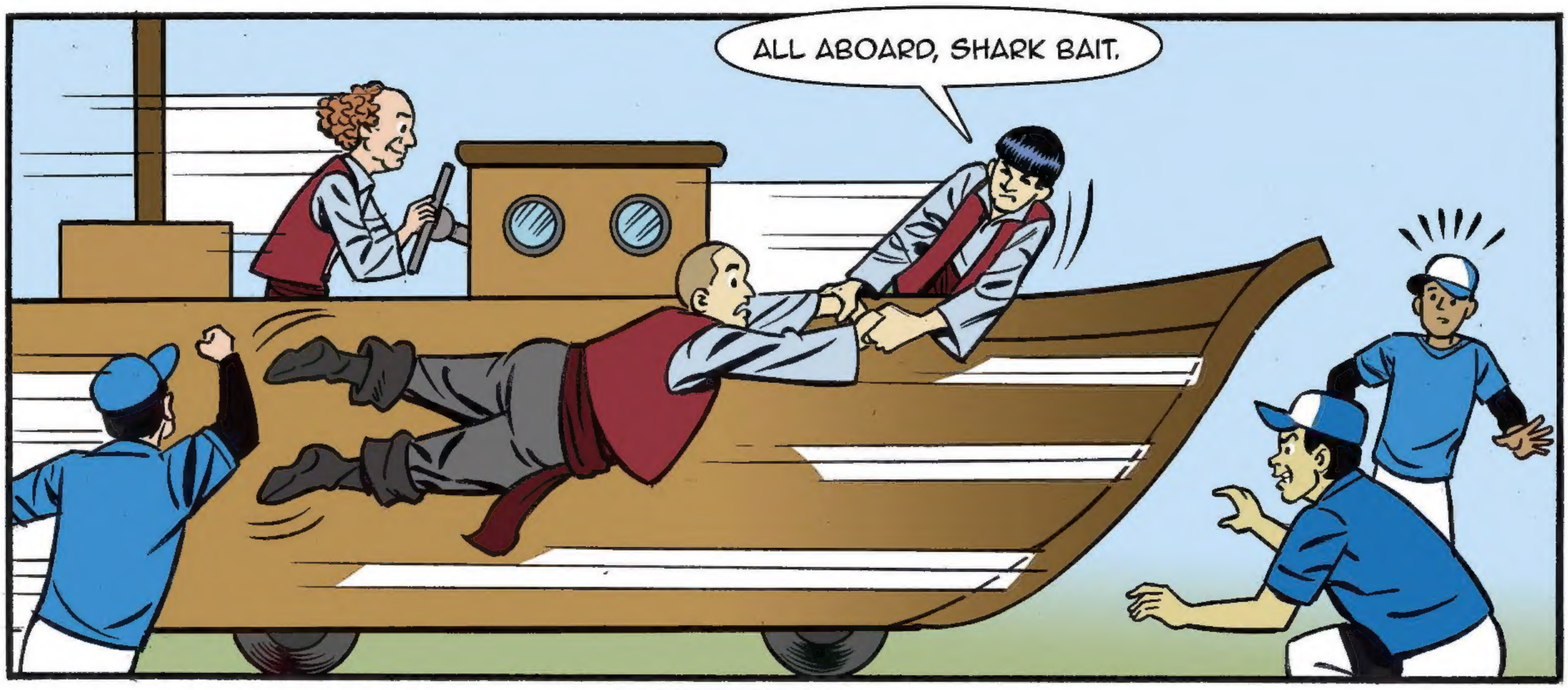
GET HIM!

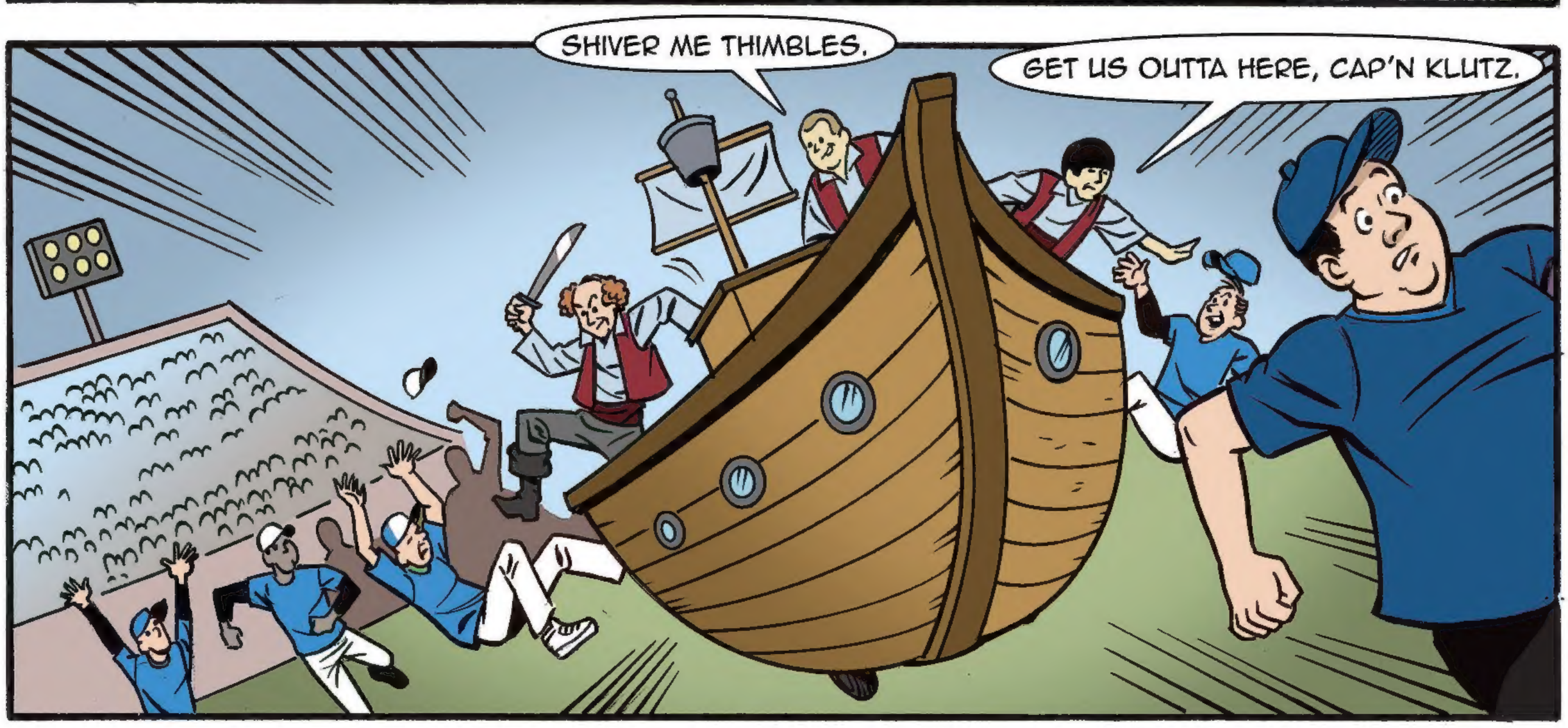
GRAB HIM!
HOLD HIM DOWN!
THAT'LL TEACH HIM, FELLAS!
THERE HE IS!
NYAAAAA!

TALLY HO!

HE RUINED MY FANTASY LEAGUE STATS.

I THINK I'M GETTING SEA SICK.


ALL ABOARD, SHARK BAIT.


SHIVER ME THIMBLES.
GET US OUTTA HERE, CAP'N KLUTZ.

AYE, AYE, SKIPPER.

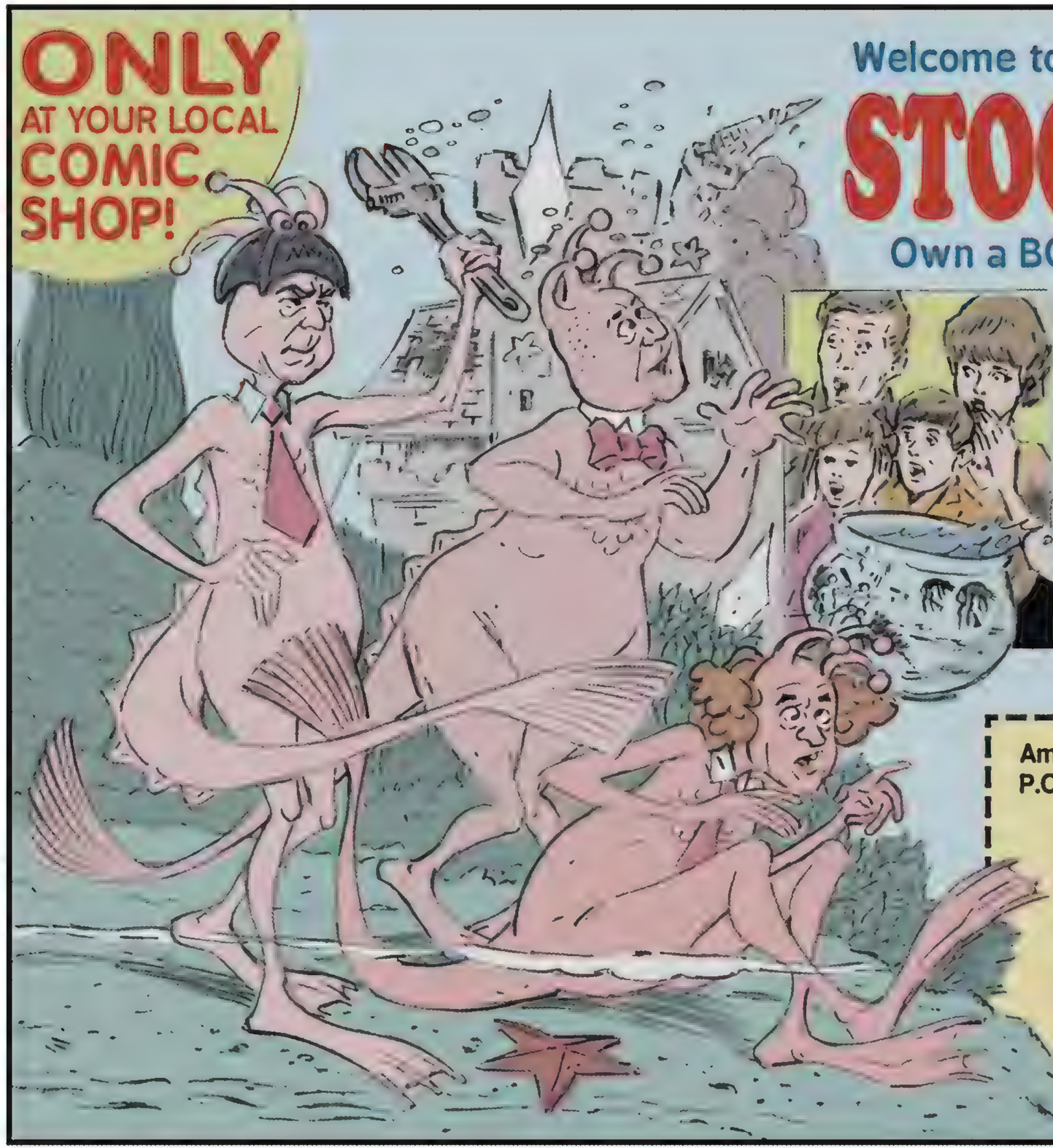
SO MUCH FOR THAT GIG.
AWW...I DIDN'T EVEN GET A T-SHIRT!
AT LEAST WE GOT LUNCH.
END

ONLY AT YOUR LOCAL COMIC SHOP!

Welcome to the WACKY WORLD OF AMAZING LIVE

STOOGE-MONKEYS

Own a BOWLFULL OF SLAPSTICK – *Instant* PALS!



Just add water – that's ALL! In One Second your AMAZING Stooge- Monkeys will start slapping, nose pulling, and eye poking! Yes, they instantly start to dismantle your fishbowl castle before your eyes. Now you can see three real live Stooge-Monkeys bicker and lollygag right in your home!

FREE!

1 - A year's supply of Stooge antics!
2 - Stooge food!
3 - Pipes for Stooge Plumbing!
4 - A magnificent full color Three Stooges comic book from the monkeys at American Mythology!
5 - Our famous EYE POKE GUARANTEE IN WRITING!

American Mythology Productions
P.O. Box 325 Bel Air, MD 21014

IT SOUNDS STOOGETASTIC! Please send my Stooge Monkey kit(s) and my FREE Stooging supplies. I must be 100% amused or you will come get these Stooges outta my house. I mean it.

Send me _____ Stooge kit(s).

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Gold Bullion ☐ Wooden Nickels

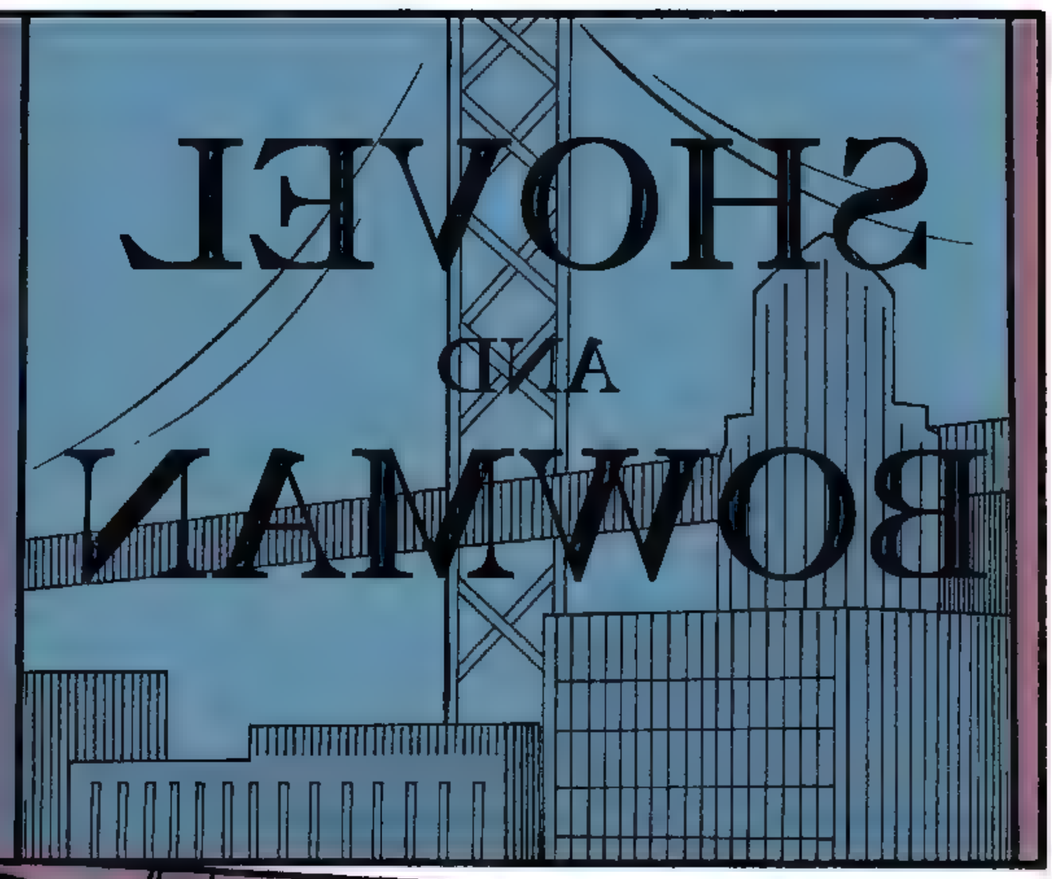
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parody Ad – No Stooge Monkeys were injured (by us) in this ad. Pie in the face extra.

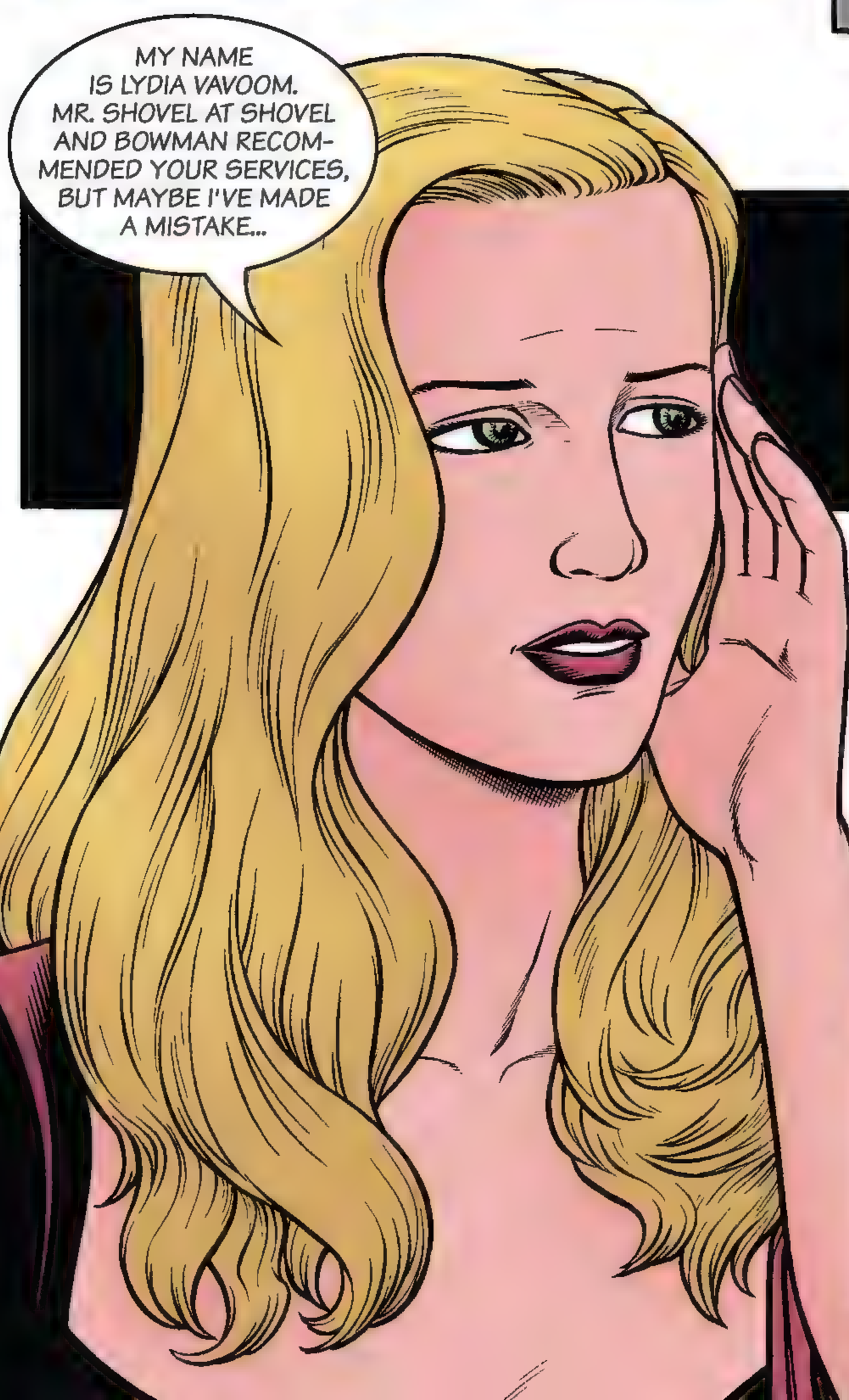
"THE BIG NYUK, NYUK, NYUK"



HOWARD
FINE &
HOWARD
PRIVATE
INVESTIGATORS
When You've Tried Everyone Else!
UMCKGH... ME ME ME ME ME ME ME ME.
I'M SORRY TO DISTURB YOU, GENTLEMEN, BUT I'M IN DESPERATE NEED OF SOME ASSISTANCE...
GENTLEMEN?
HMMM?
UMCKGH... ME ME ME ME ME ME ME ME.

WAKE UP, YOU NUMBSKULLS! WE HAVE A CLIENT!
KONK!
KONK!

HELLO!
HELLO!
HELLO!


MY NAME IS LYDIA VAVOOM. MR. SHOVEL AT SHOVEL AND BOWMAN RECOMMENDED YOUR SERVICES, BUT MAYBE I'VE MADE A MISTAKE...

SAM SHOVEL RECOMMENDED US? WHATTAYA KNOW?
THAT IS, WHY DON'T YOU TELL US ABOUT YOUR PROBLEM?

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF LUKA TUCCI?

I'VE HEARD OF LUKA MANCINI. HE'S MY UNCLE'S DENTIST.

SURE, WE'VE HEARD OF HIM. HE'S A DANGEROUS TYPE, A REAL MOBSTER.
SMACK!

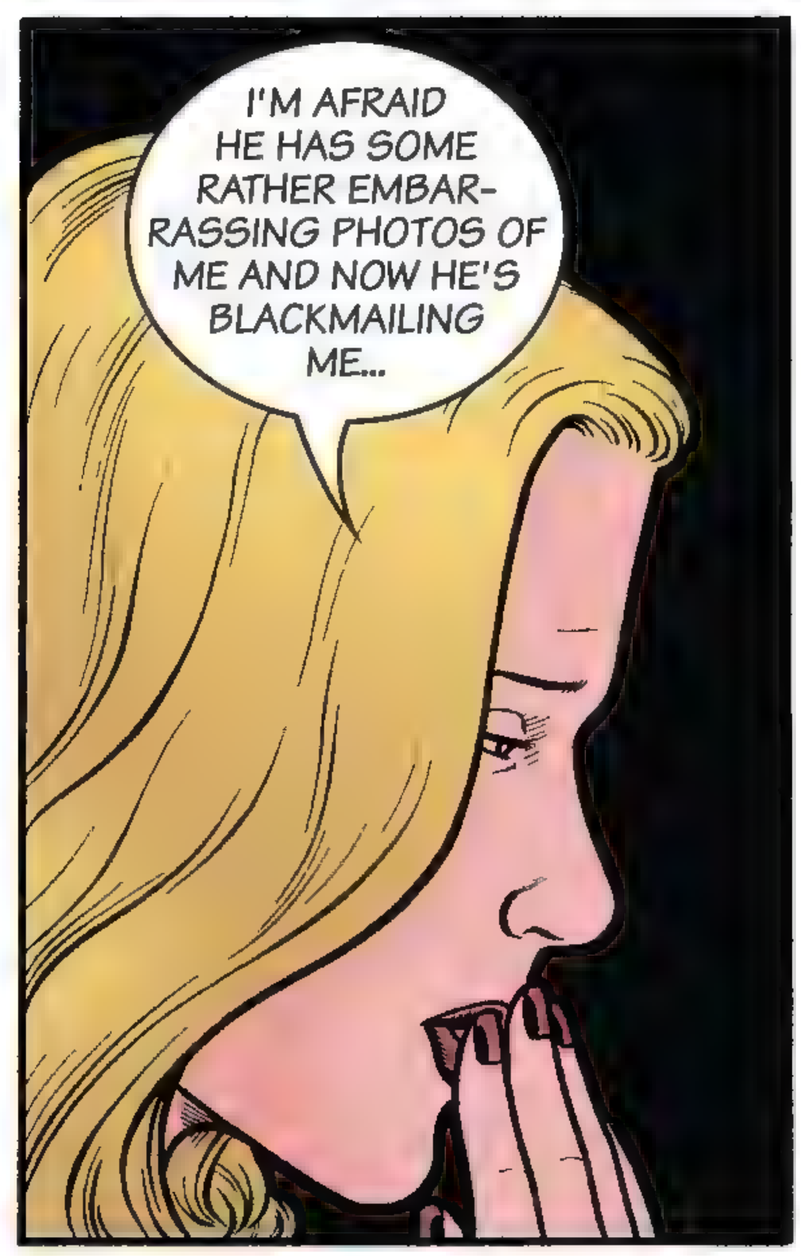
A LOBSTER? THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

I'M SO SORRY, MISS VAVOOM. WOULD YOU PLEASE EXCUSE ME A MOMENT?

POKE!
OW! WHAT DID I DO? WHAT DID I DO?

I'M SORRY FOR THE INTERRUPTION, MISS VAVOOM. NOW, YOU WERE SAYING...?

BEFORE HE ROSE THROUGH THE RANKS OF THE MOB, I WAS IN LOVE WITH LUKA TUCCI.


I'M AFRAID HE HAS SOME RATHER EMBARRASSING PHOTOS OF ME AND NOW HE'S BLACKMAILING ME...

THAT'S NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY.
WE'LL GET THOSE PHOTOS BACK FOR YOU, MISS VAVOOM.
GRRRRR! RUFF! RUFF!
NEAR LUKA TUCCI'S HEADQUARTERS...
C'MON, BOYS. WE HAVE TO GET MISS VAVOOM'S PICTURES BACK FROM THAT GOON, LUKA.
WHAT'S A GOONLUKA?
AND WHAT DOES A LOBSTER WANT WITH PHOTOS ANYWAY?
HANDS UP, YOU STOOGES!
GENTLEMEN, I'M SURE THERE'S BEEN SOME KIND OF MISTAKE...
NO MISTAKE. HANDS UP!

IN THERE. AND KEEP YOUR HANDS UP.
LUKA'S RESTAURANT
CLOSED MONDAYS
IT SAYS CLOSED MONDAYS AND TODAY'S MONDAY, SO...
WHAT WERE YOU SAYING?
I'M TRYING TO THINK, BUT NOTHING HAPPENS...
SO, GENTLEMEN. I DON'T KNOW YOU, BUT MY BOYS FOUND YOU SNIFFING AROUND, APPARENTLY LOOKING FOR SOMETHING THAT BELONGS TO ME.
EXPLAIN YOURSELVES.
YOU MUST BE LUKA TUCCI...
MISS LYDIA VAVOOM SAID YOU'VE GOT SOME PICTURES OF HER...
HEY, MOE! HE DON'T LOOK LIKE NO LOBSTER I EVER SAW!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU, HE'S NOT A LOBSTER, LAMEBRAIN?!?
WHOOOOP!

MY GUN!

BANG!

I DON'T FEEL SO...

GAH!

GRRRRR!
GET HIM OFF ME! GET HIM OFF ME!

WHAT ARE YOU...?

KA-POW!

I'LL TAKE THAT.
WAIT! THAT'S MINE!

I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!

BLAM!
BLAM! BLAM!

BUT THOSE WERE MY KID'S SCHOOL PICTURES.
UNH...
IF THOSE WEREN'T LYDIA VAVOOM'S PICTURES, WE BETTER SEARCH THIS PLACE AND FAST!
A SHORT WHILE LATER...
NOT A TRACE. WHAT ARE WE GOING TO TELL MISS VAVOOM?
I HATE TO DISAPPOINT A LADY, BUT WE'LL HAVE TO TELL HER THE TRUTH.
AND THAT GUY SURE AIN'T NO LOBSTER!
WHY I OUGHTA...
GENTLEMEN, I'M SO GLAD I FOUND YOU.

I HAVE TO APOLOGIZE FOR USING YOU BOYS AS A DISTRACTION WHILE I OBTAINED THE REAL PHOTOS.
I'M SINCERELY SORRY FOR HAVING PUT YOU IN DANGER. I COULDN'T HAVE LIVED WITH MYSELF IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU.
AW, WE'RE ACCUSTOMED TO BEING USED.
IT'S FINE, AS LONG AS YOU'RE STILL PAYING US.
AS LONG AS YOU'RE PAYING, DANGER IS OUR MIDDLE NAMES.
IN ALL THE CONFUSION, I NEVER ASKED... WHAT HAPPENED TO LUKA?
LUKA TUCCI SLEEPS WITH THE DISHES.
HEY, CAN WE GET SOME DINNER? FOR SOME REASON I'M HUNGRY FOR LOBSTER.
The End.

STOOGE FUN FACTS

Everyone at American Mythology is so excited to have The Three Stooges back in comics that we wanted to share some of that joy with our readers! And what better way to bring The Three Stooges back to fans than by sharing a little of the eye poking mythology that makes The Boys so great! Everyone thinks they know all about the Stooges, but how well do you really know some of the stories and facts surrounding America's greatest comedy trio? This is your chance to see how much of a true Stooge you really are. Get all these right and we'll crown you an honorary American Mythology Stooge.

THERE WERE MORE THAN JUST THREE STOOGES!

That's right. When we think of The Three Stooges, it's easy to remember Larry, Moe, and Curly, but over the expanse of their illustrious careers, their roster has changed many times. The original lineup consisted of the Howard brothers, Moe and Shemp, and Larry Fine back when they worked with fellow vaudeville star Ted Healy. When Shemp decided to leave the group, they brought in Moe's younger brother, Curly, into the act. The Boys went on to make cinematic comedy history as this incarnation of the trio reigned supreme in Hollywood for years until Curly was forced to leave the group due to illness. Shemp came back into the fold for more two-reel madness until his sudden death. Moe and Larry later brought in Joe Besser and after that Curly Joe DeRita when the group found a new resurgence in the late 50's and early 60's. Who knew there were six Stooges!

WE KNEW THE BOYS' ANTICS WERE MAGIC BUT...

Did you know that Moe was married to Harry Houdini's cousin?

SHEMP IS THE STOOGE WHO INVENTED THE EYE POKE!

As told by Moe Howard, he, Larry, and Shemp were playing a card game after hours. Shemp said that Larry was cheating and they got into an argument over it. He got so mad that he poked Larry in both eyes with his fingers. Moe thought it was hilarious and The Boys later went on to add it into their act. So the next time you see

one of the Stooges' signature moves, either on film, TV, or in our very own comic, you have Shemp Howard to thank for that!

SPEAKING OF SIGNATURE MOVES!

Did you know that when Curly did his running in circles during filming it was actually improv on his part because he forgot his lines? Woob, woob, woob indeed!

THE STOOGES WERE NOMINATED FOR AN OSCAR?!

That's right! Not bad for a bunch of guys from Vaudeville! The Stooges' third film with Columbia 'Men in Black' actually earned an Oscar nomination in 1934 for Best Short Subject Comedy!

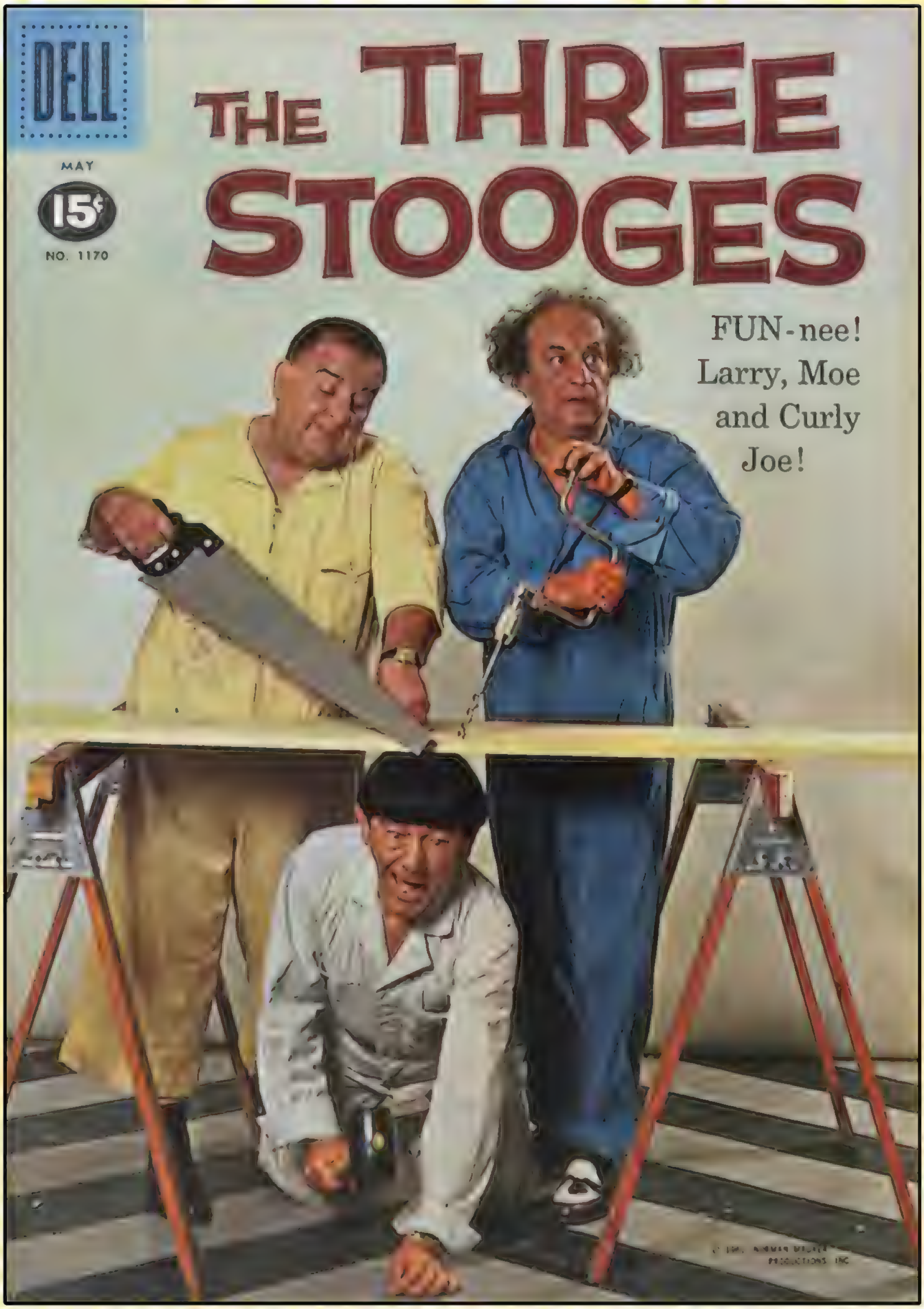
STOOGE WALK OF FAME!

They may not have won the golden statue that year, but it didn't stop The Boys from eventually earning their very own star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame in 1983. The event drew one of the biggest crowds ever to help celebrate all things Stooges!

THE NATIONAL FILM REGISTRY

In 2002, Punch Drunks was added to the Library of Congress National Film Registry adding another significant honor for The Three Stooges. According to the terms of the National Film Preservation Act, films that are "culturally, historically; or aesthetically" significant can be added to the Registry.

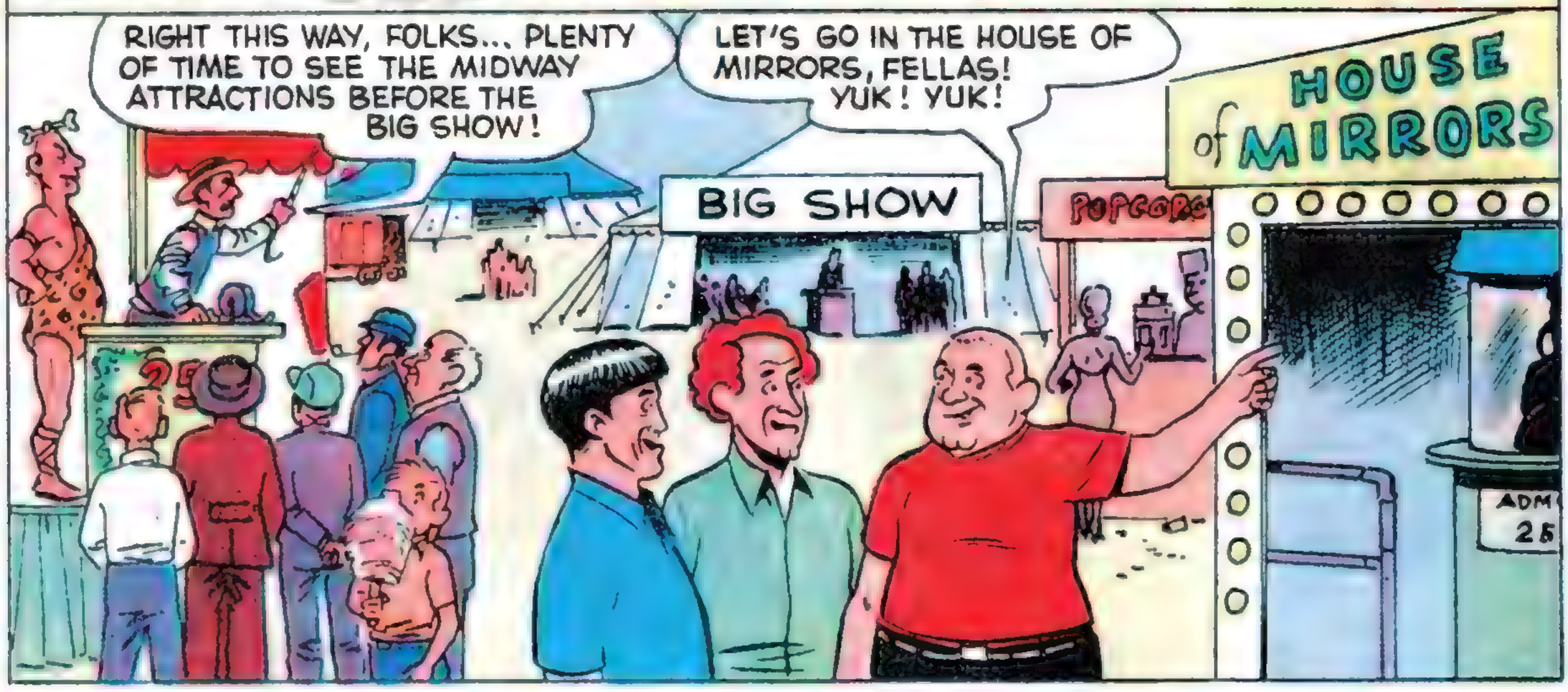
Librarian of Congress James H. Billington said, "Taken together, the 350 films (at a time) in the National Film Registry represent a stunning range of American filmmaking… all deserving recognition, preservation and access by future generations". For each title named to the Registry, the Library of Congress works to ensure that the film is preserved for all time.

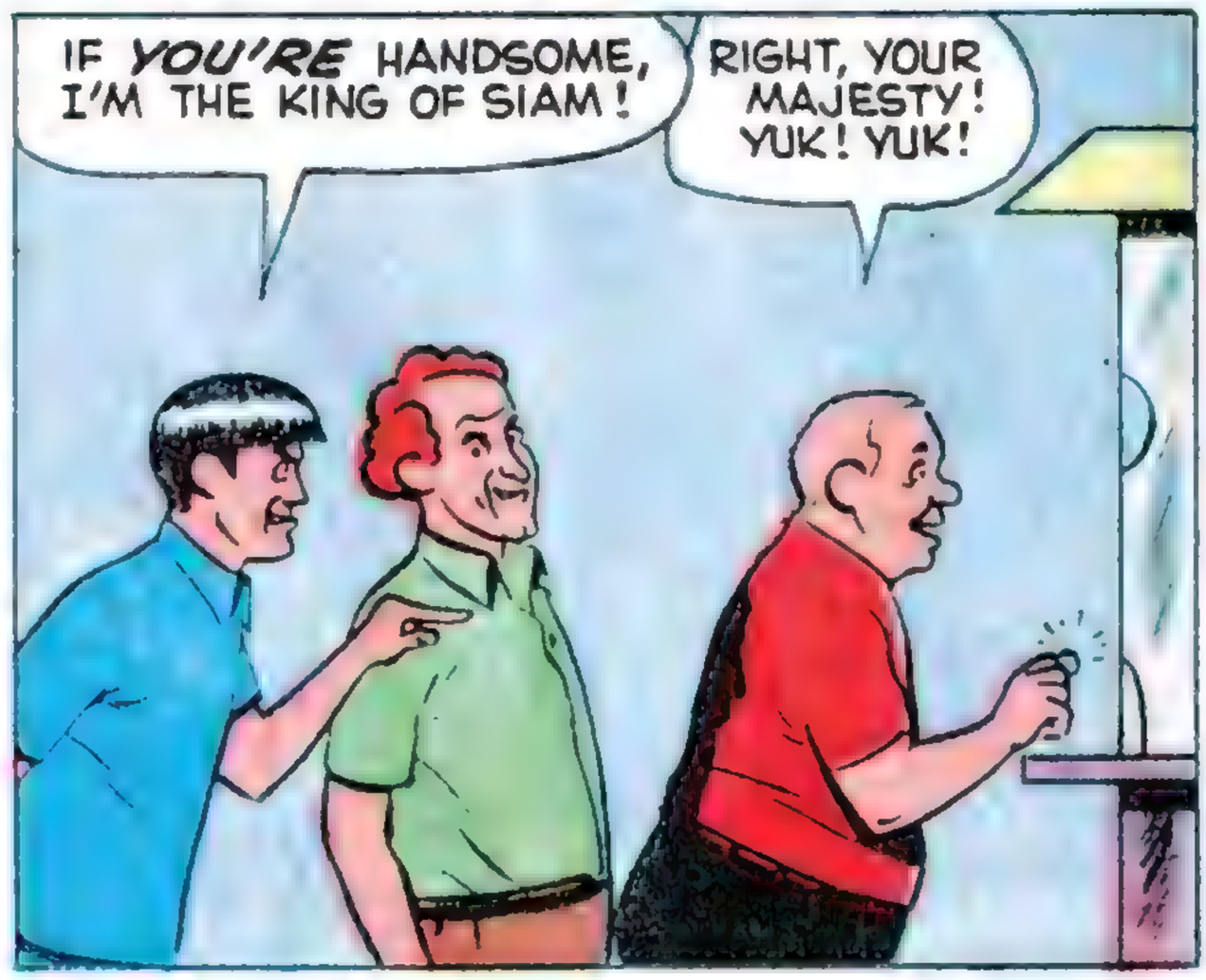


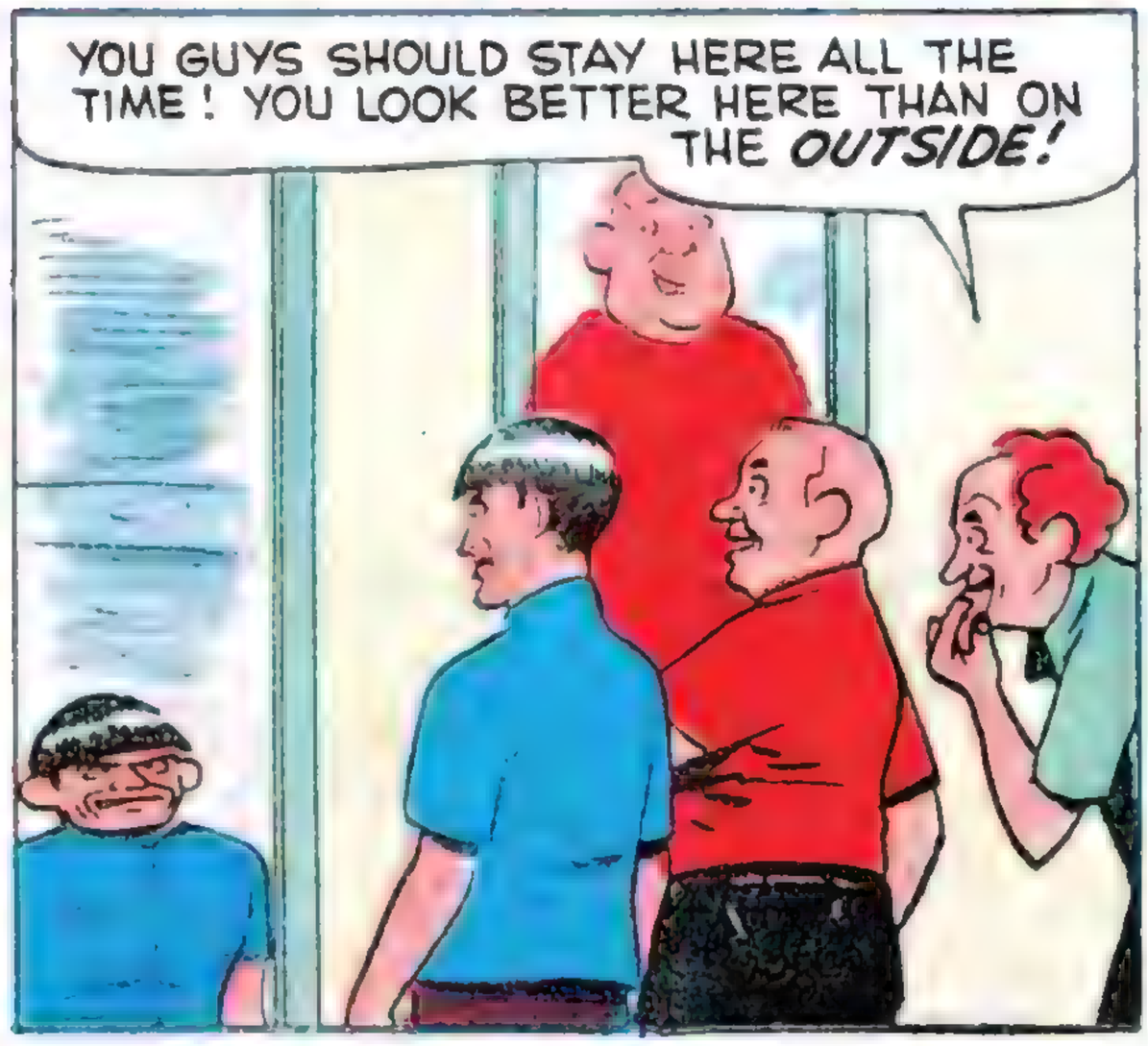
AMERICAN MYTHOLOGY PROUDLY PRESENTS A TALE FROM THE THREE STOOGES PAST FEATURING LARRY, MOE, AND CURLY JOE!

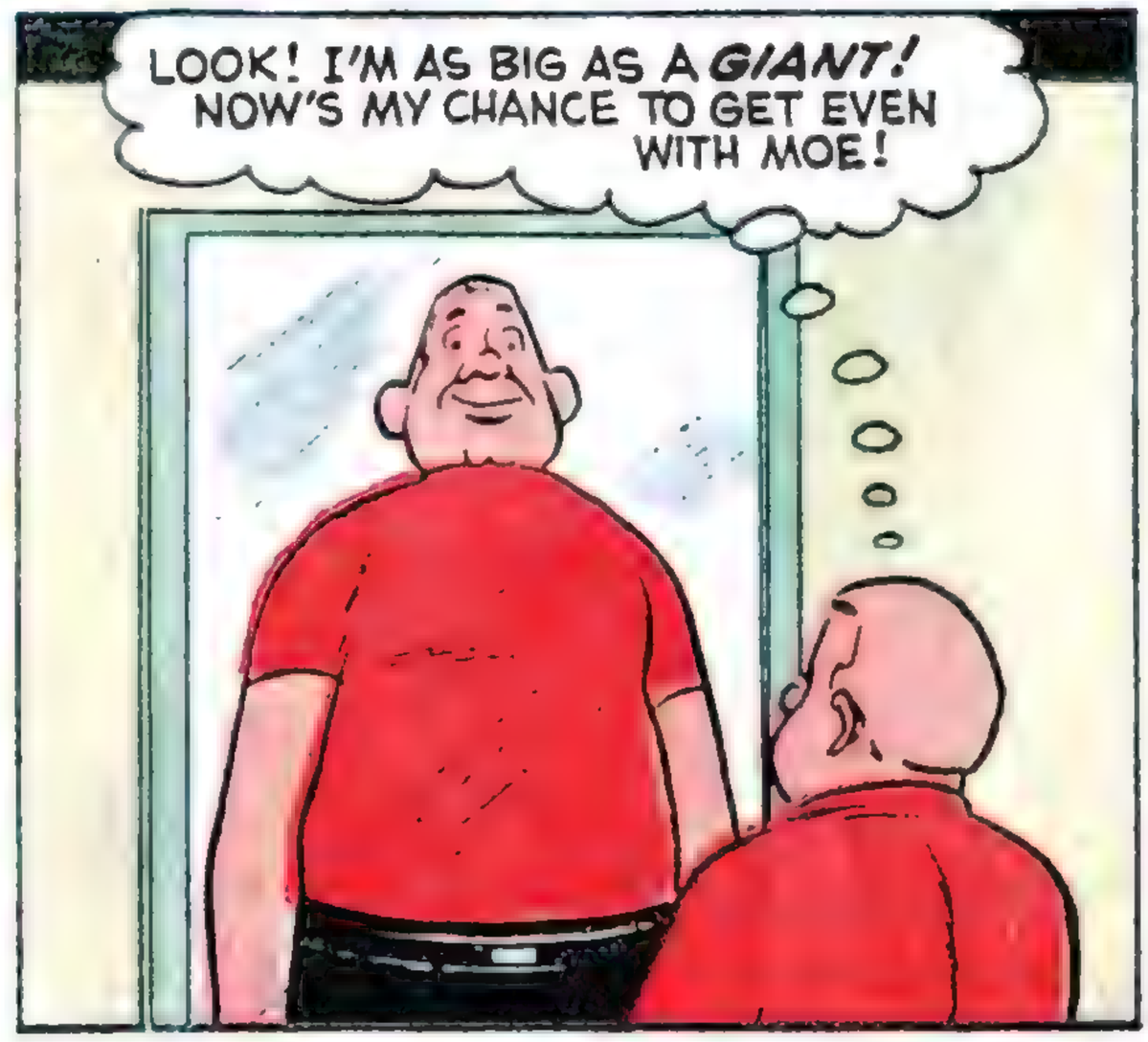
Originally published in *Dell Four Color* #1170 (1942)
Writer: Jerry Belson Artist: Sparky Moore

THE THREE STOOGES MIDWAY MADNESS







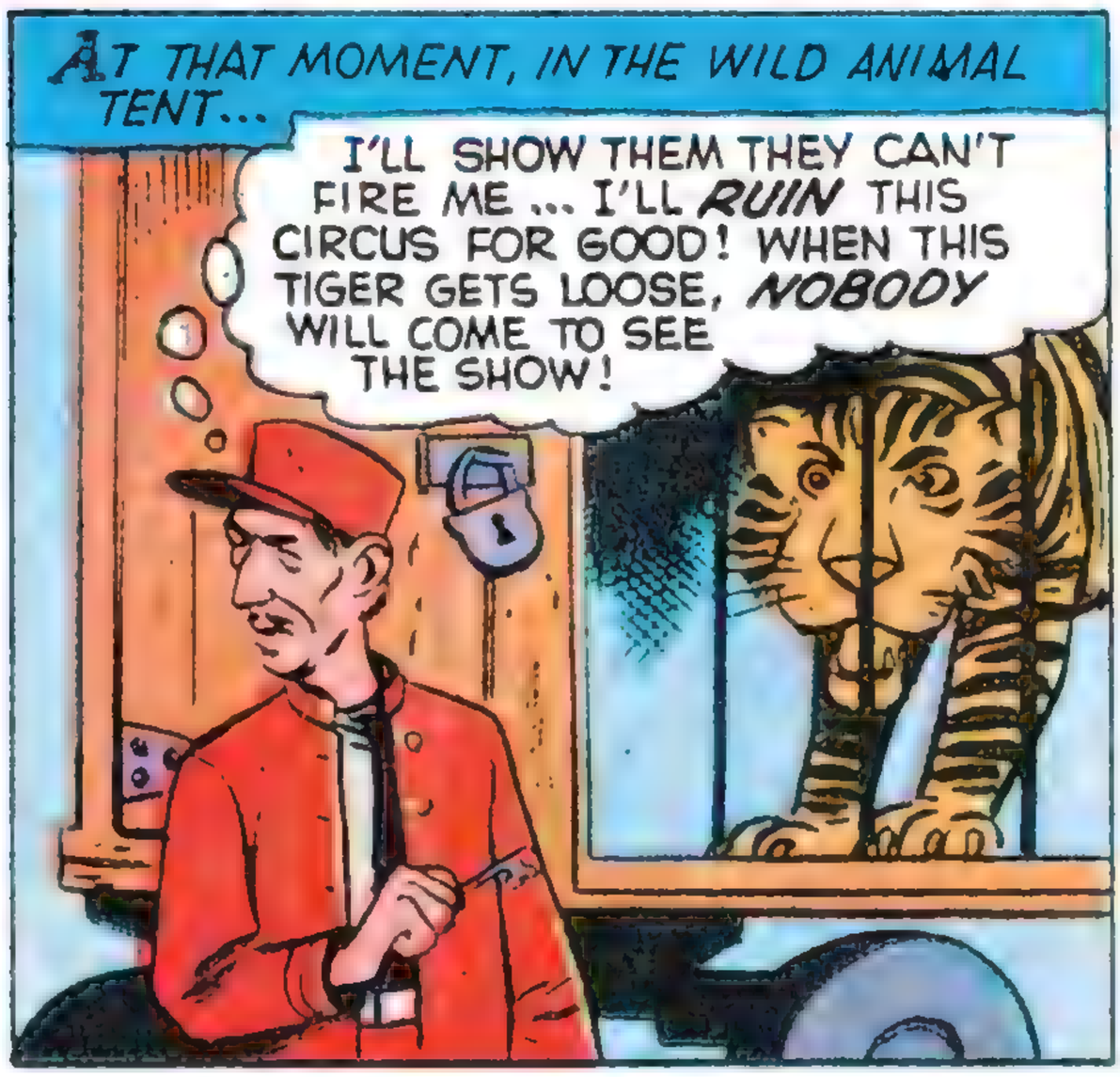


THAT'S FOR THE LAST TIME YOU HIT ME, SQUIRT!
YEAH, AND HERE'S ONE FROM ME, LITTLE MAN!
BONK!
BONK!

THOSE ARE JUST MIRRORS, YOU BOOBS! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW THEY GO TO YOUR HEADS!
CLUNK!

HEY, LET'S SEE THIS ONE!
SAVE YOUR MONEY! WE'VE STILL GOT TO SEE THE BIG SHOW!
TWO-HEADED MONSTER

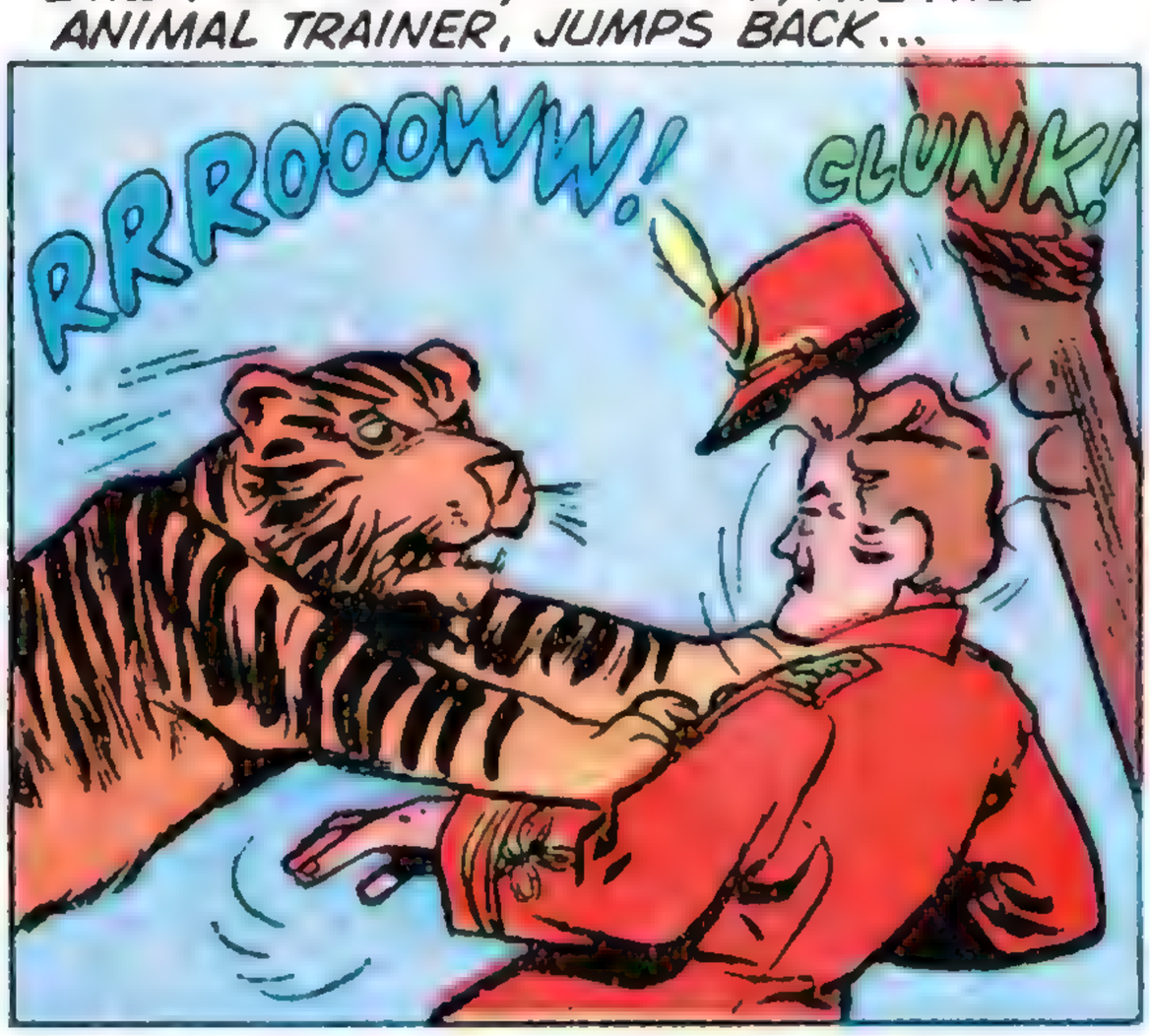
YEAH! ANYWAY, WE CAN SEE YOU FOR FREE... THE ONE-HEADED MONSTER!
YOU GUYS AREN'T A BIT FUNNY!

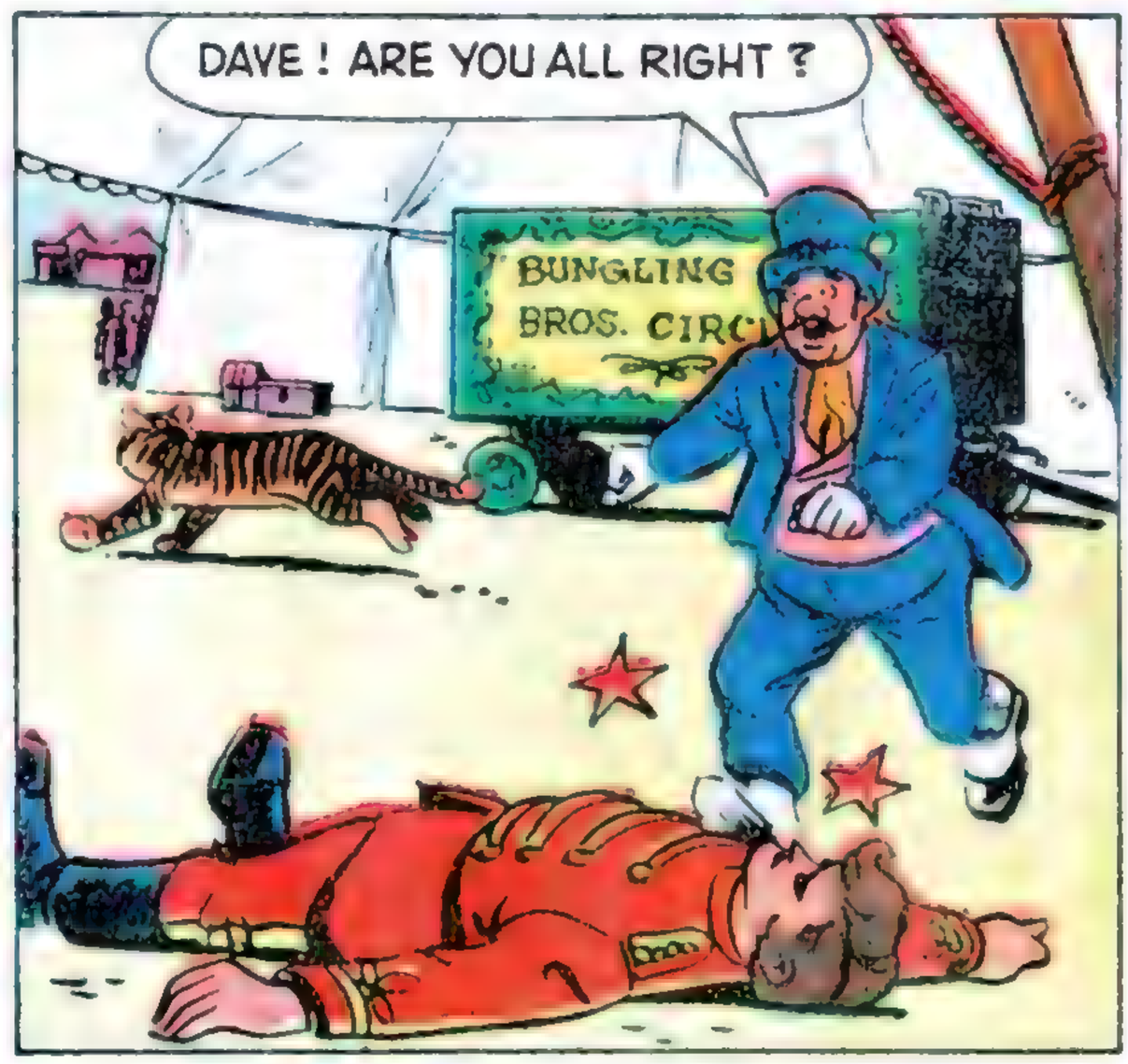

AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE WILD ANIMAL TENT...
I'LL SHOW THEM THEY CAN'T FIRE ME ... I'LL RUIN THIS CIRCUS FOR GOOD! WHEN THIS TIGER GETS LOOSE, NOBODY WILL COME TO SEE THE SHOW!

SCARE 'EM GOOD, SHEBA...

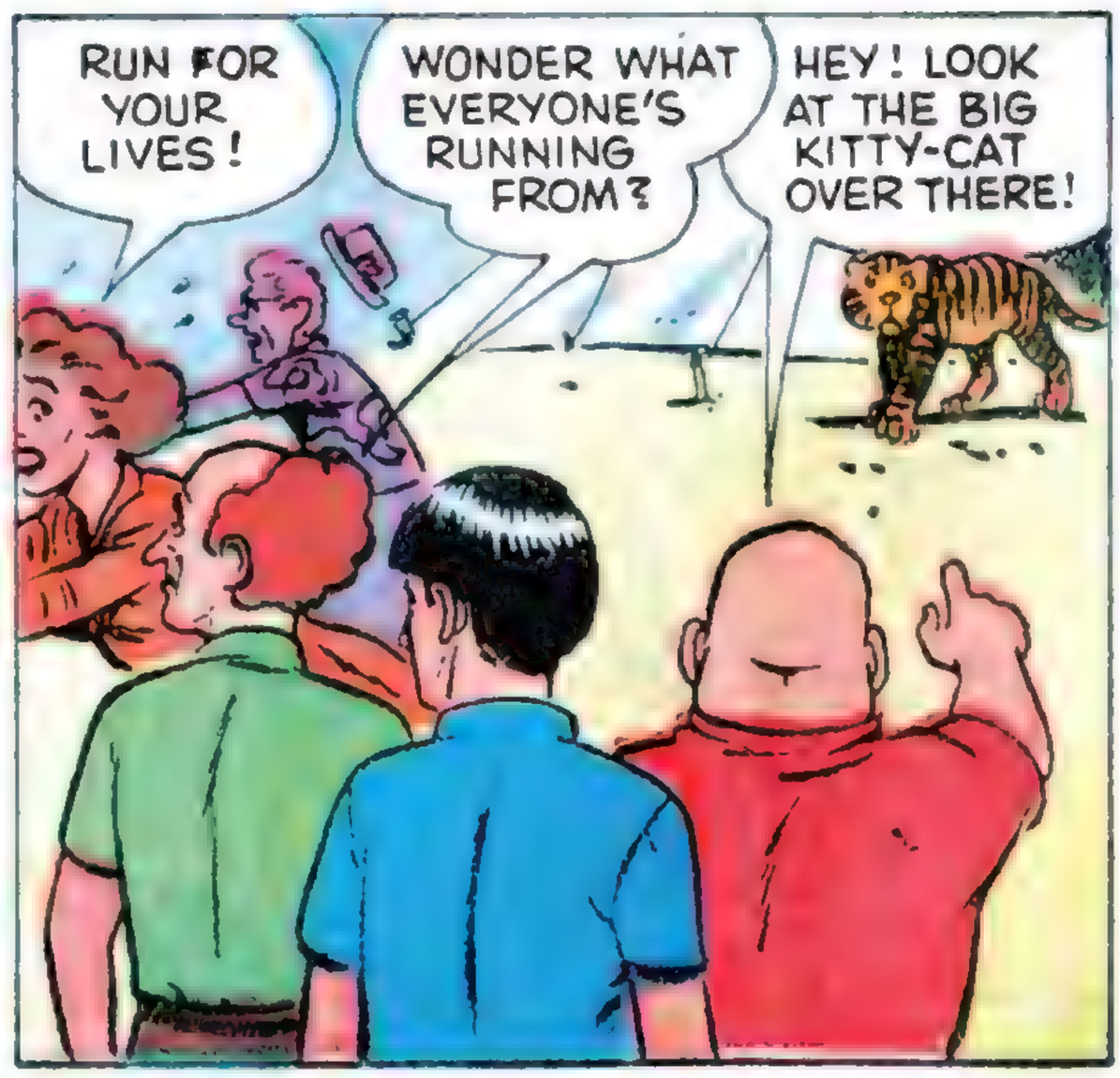
A TIGER'S LOOSE!
RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
EEEEEK!
RRRROOOWW!

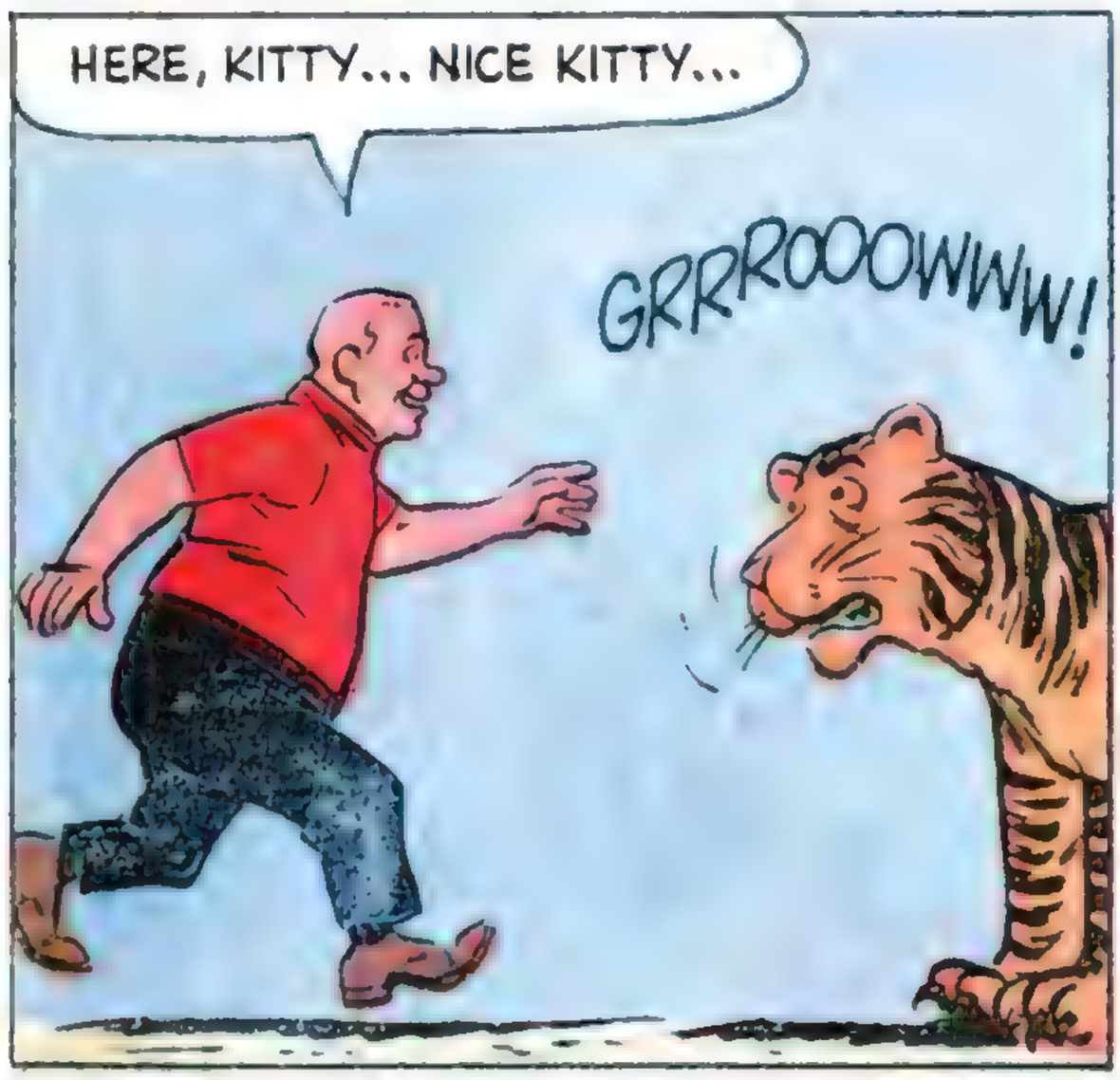
THE WILD ANIMAL TRAINER SEES WHAT HAS HAPPENED...
SHEBA'S LOOSE!
BACK, SHEBA... BACK, GIRL!


THE TIGER LEAPS, AND DAVE, THE WILD ANIMAL TRAINER, JUMPS BACK...
RRROOOWW!
GLUNK!


DAVE! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
BUNGLING BROS. CIRC

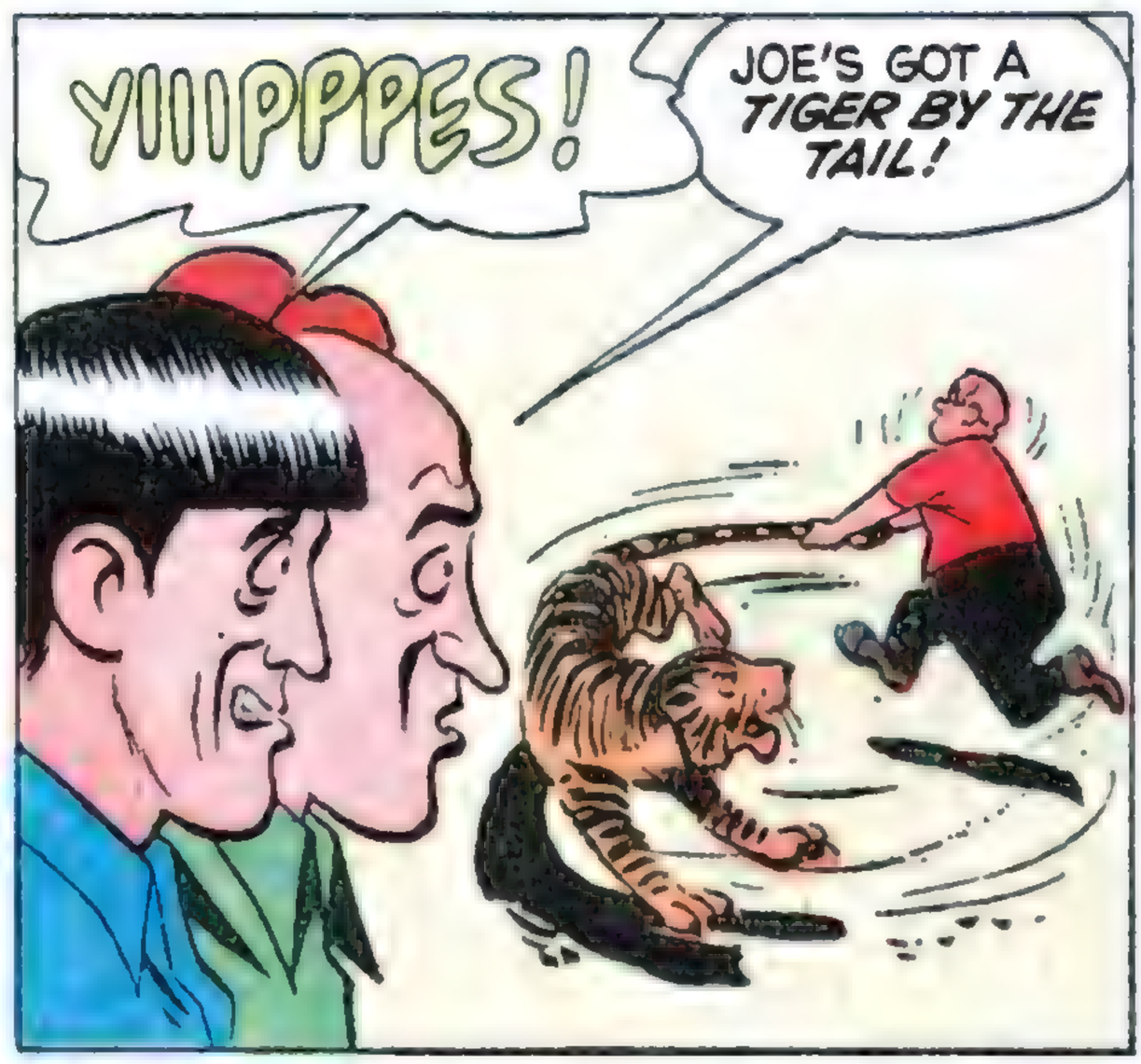
DAVE!... YOU'VE GOT TO BE ALL RIGHT... YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THAT TIGER OR WE'RE RUINED!


RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
WONDER WHAT EVERYONE'S RUNNING FROM?
HEY! LOOK AT THE BIG KITTY-CAT OVER THERE!

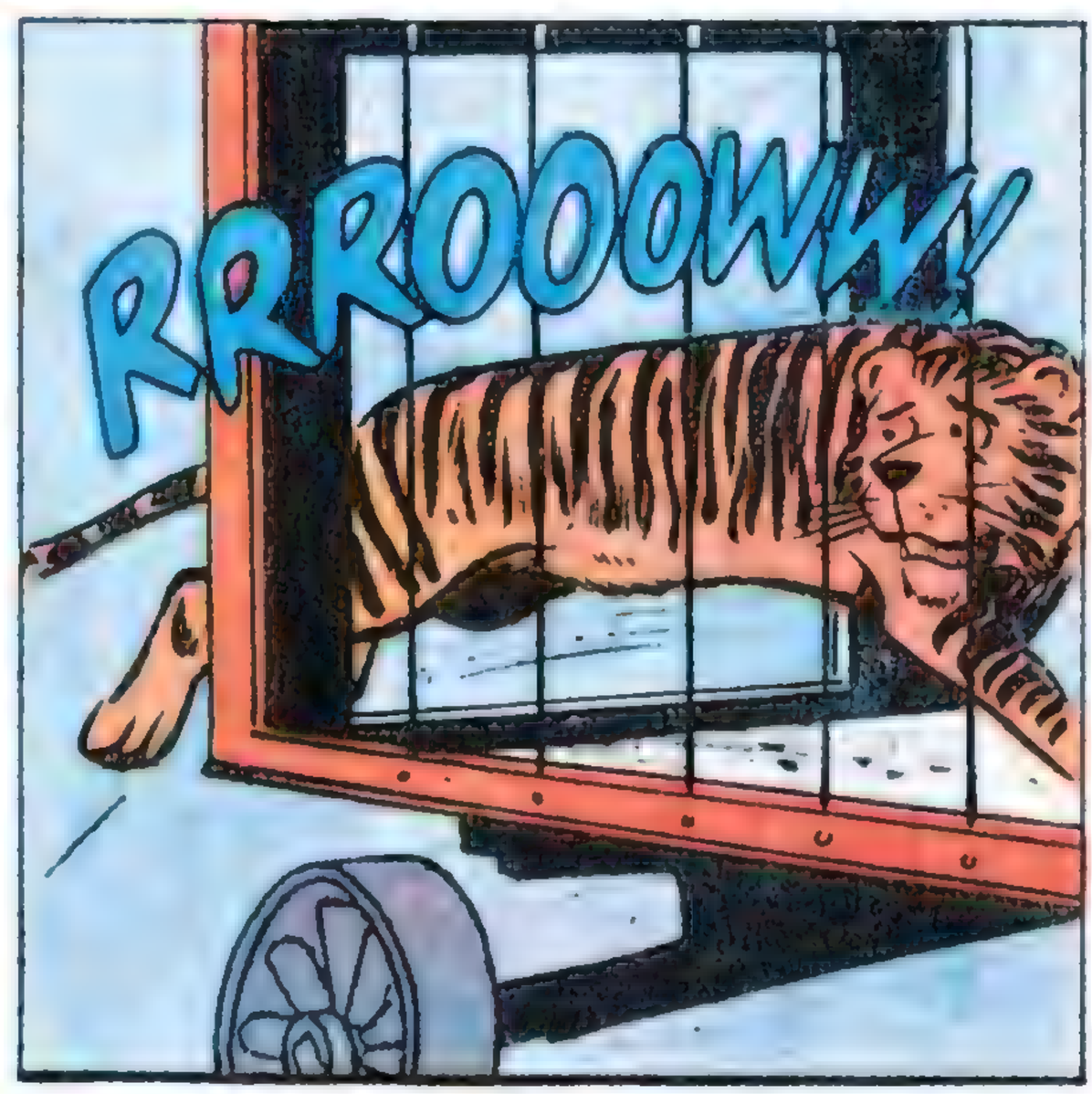

HERE, KITTY... NICE KITTY...
GRRROOOWWW!

HEY!
WHACK!

I'M GOING TO TEACH YOU SOME MANNERS, KITTY!
GRRROOOWW!!


YIIIPPPES!
JOE'S GOT A TIGER BY THE TAIL!

AND NEXT TIME, YOU BE NICER TO ME!
THE TIGER'S HEADED BACK TO HIS CAGE!
!!!!


RRROOOWW!

CONGRATULATIONS, MISTER! YOU'RE THE BRAVEST MAN I'VE EVER SEEN!... SOMEBODY DELIBERATELY LET THAT TIGER OUT OF THE CAGE!

CLICK!

TIGER... OOOOH!

POOR FELLA PROBABLY SUFFERED TOO MUCH SHOCK BATTLING THAT BEAST! BUT HE SAVED A LOT OF LIVES... Y'KNOW, THIS IS THE *FIFTH* ACCIDENT WE'VE HAD IN A MONTH!

PLOP!

SAY, DO YOU SUPPOSE YOUR FRIEND WOULD BE OUR LION TAMER FOR TONIGHT? THE REGULAR MAN IS PRETTY SHAKEN UP AND WITHOUT A WILD ANIMAL ACT, EVERYONE WILL WANT THEIR MONEY BACK!

YOU WANT CURLY JOE TO GO INTO A CAGE WITH ALL THOSE ANIMALS? RIDICULOUS!

I'LL PAY HIM FIFTY DOLLARS!

WE'LL DO IT!

YOU'LL FIND A COSTUME OVER IN THAT WARDROBE CLOSET! SHOW GOES ON IN FIFTEEN MINUTES!

HE'LL BE READY!

BUNG BROS CIRCU

YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO LET HIM DO IT?

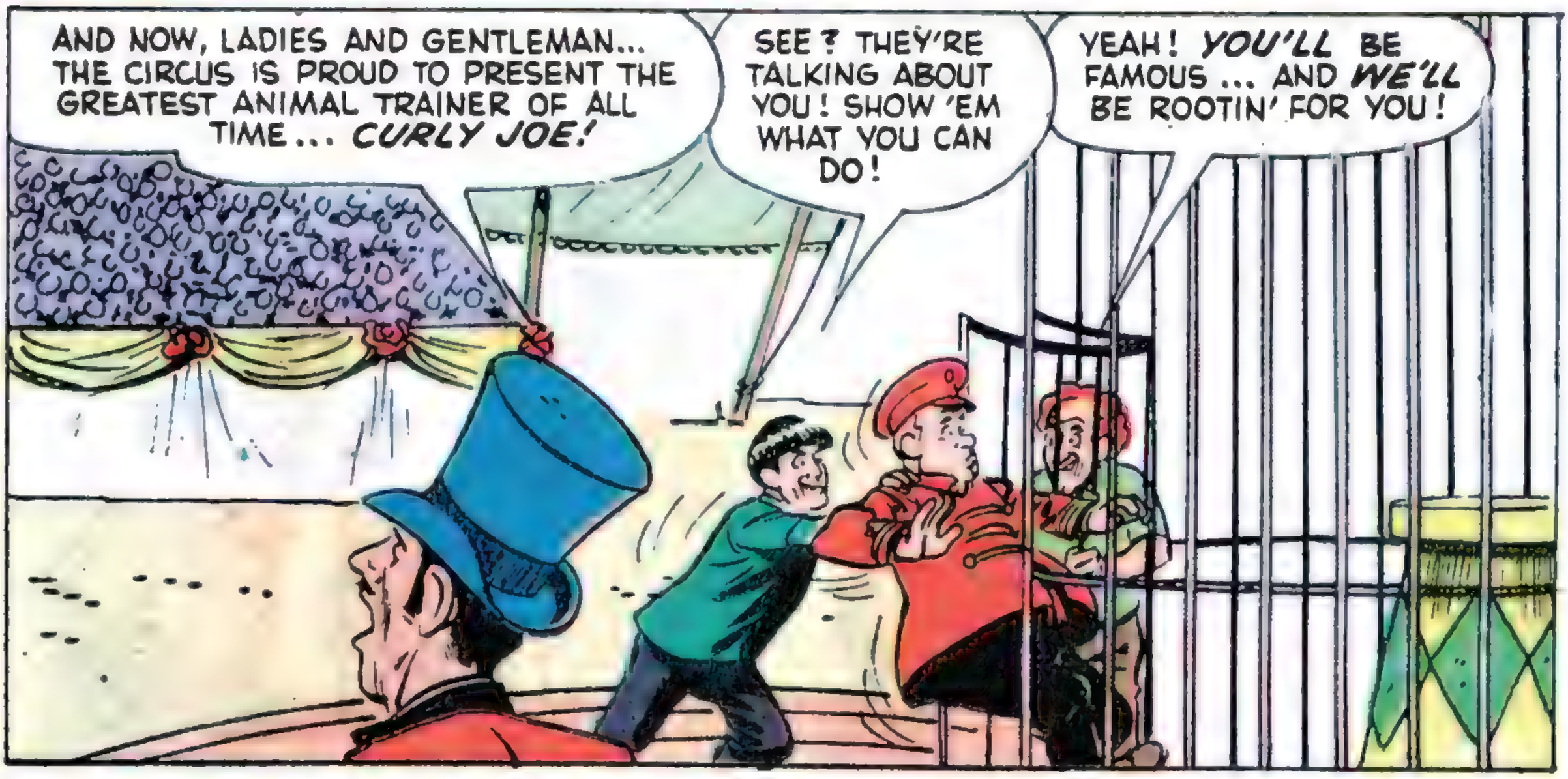
FOR FIFTY BUCKS?... WE NEED THE MONEY! BESIDES, AS LONG AS THE ANIMALS DON'T THINK HE'S *AFRAID* OF THEM, HE'LL BE FINE!

BUT HOW WILL THEY THINK THAT?
SIMPLE ... WE WON'T TELL THEM!

SHORTLY...
HEY! WHY THE COSTUME, FELLOWS? YOU SAY I'M GONNA DO AN ACT? I CAN'T JUGGLE, OR WALK A WIRE, OR...

THIS IS EVEN EASIER, JOE... ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS YELL AT A FEW ANIMALS AND MAKE THEM SIT UP ON STOOLS!
OH, IF THAT'S ALL... SURE!

AND WE GET FIFTY DOLLARS!
WE?
SURE! IT WAS ME AN' MOE WHO GOT YOU THIS JOB!


AND NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMAN... THE CIRCUS IS PROUD TO PRESENT THE GREATEST ANIMAL TRAINER OF ALL TIME... CURLY JOE!
SEE? THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT YOU! SHOW 'EM WHAT YOU CAN DO!
YEAH! YOU'LL BE FAMOUS ... AND WE'LL BE ROOTIN' FOR YOU!

AN' DON'T WORRY ABOUT A THING! IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, WE'LL SEND YOU *FLOWERS!*
SURE! *TIGER LILIES!*

CRACK THE WHIP! SHOW HIM WHO'S BOSS!
I ALREADY KNOW WHO'S BOSS... *HE IS!*
RRROOW! GRRR!

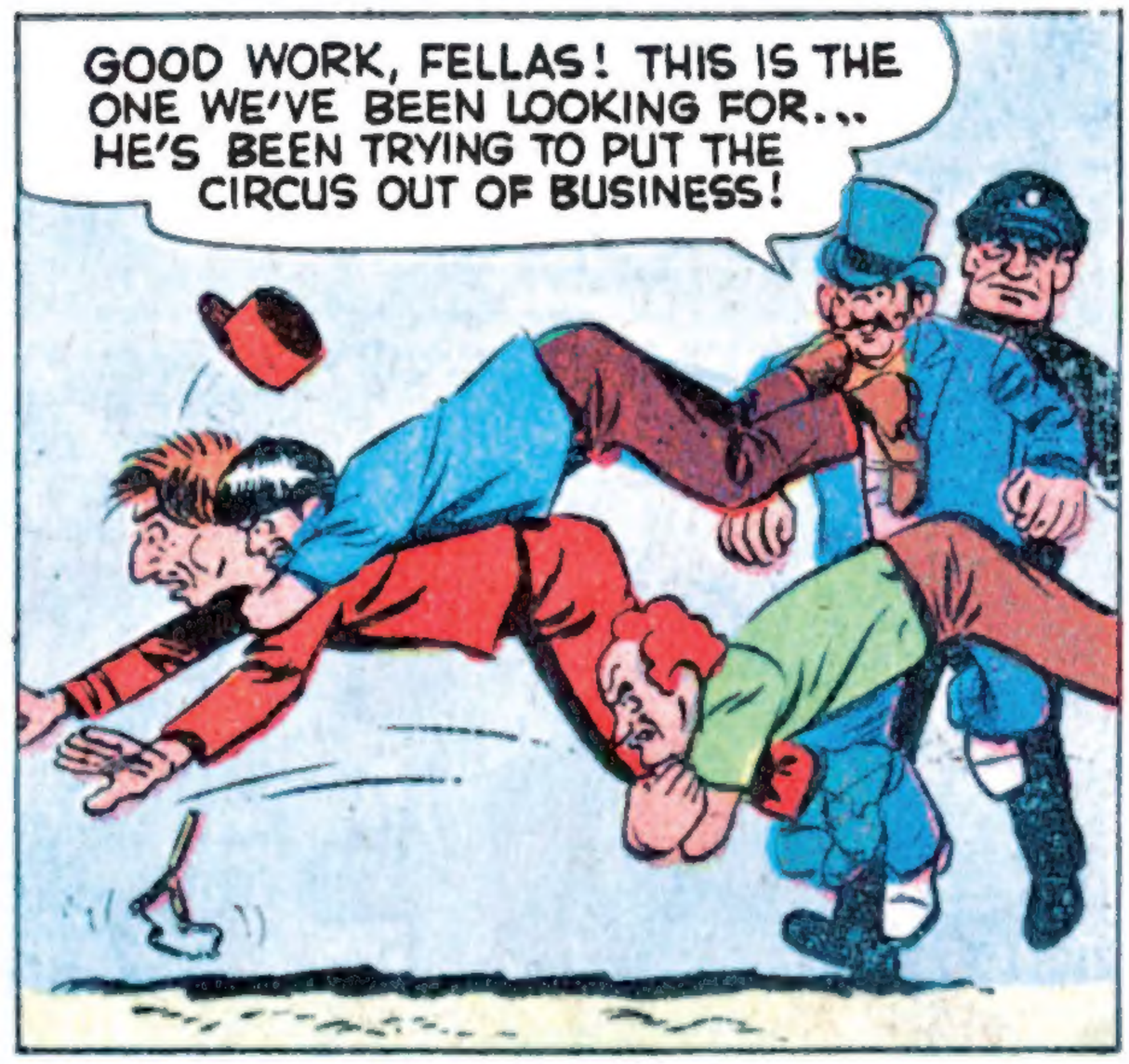
A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY...
THIS SLINGSHOT OUGHT TO DO THE JOB... THOSE ANIMALS WILL GO CRAZY!

OOOOOOWWW!
WHACK!

WHO DID THAT?

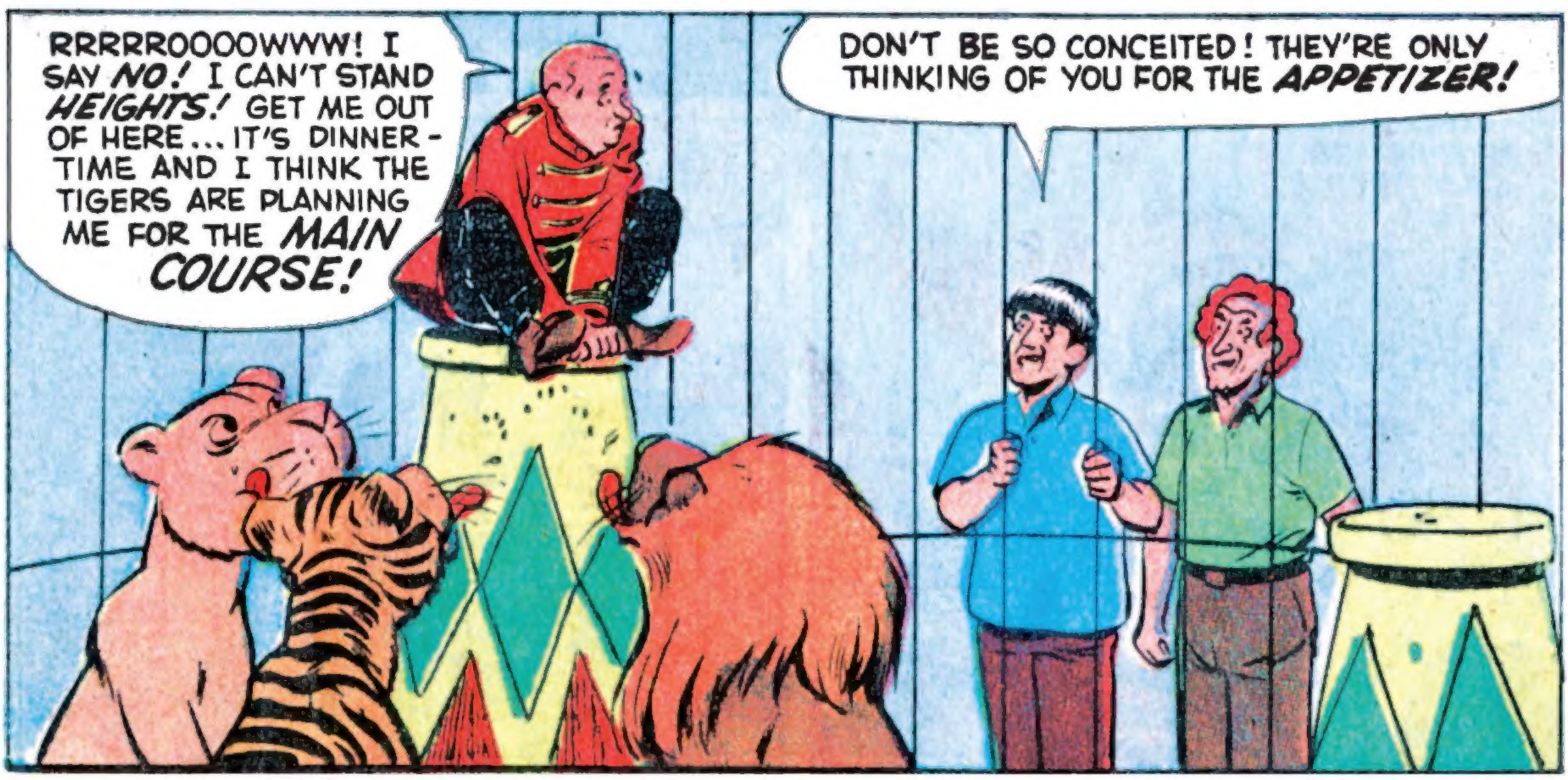
YOU GUYS STOP THAT!
THATABOY, JOE! NOW YOU'RE DOING IT!
SLAP!
SLAP!

HEY, THAT GUY IS TRYING TO CAUSE TROUBLE!
LET'S GET HIM!

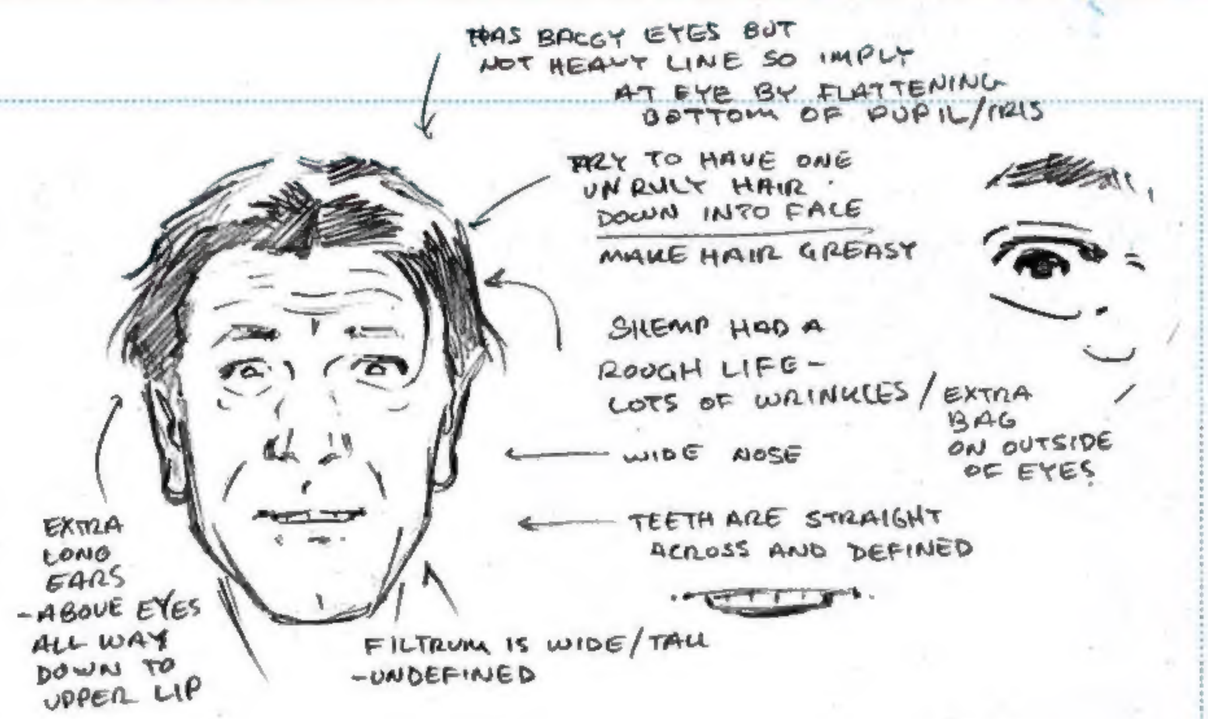

GOOD WORK, FELLAS! THIS IS THE ONE WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR... HE'S BEEN TRYING TO PUT THE CIRCUS OUT OF BUSINESS!

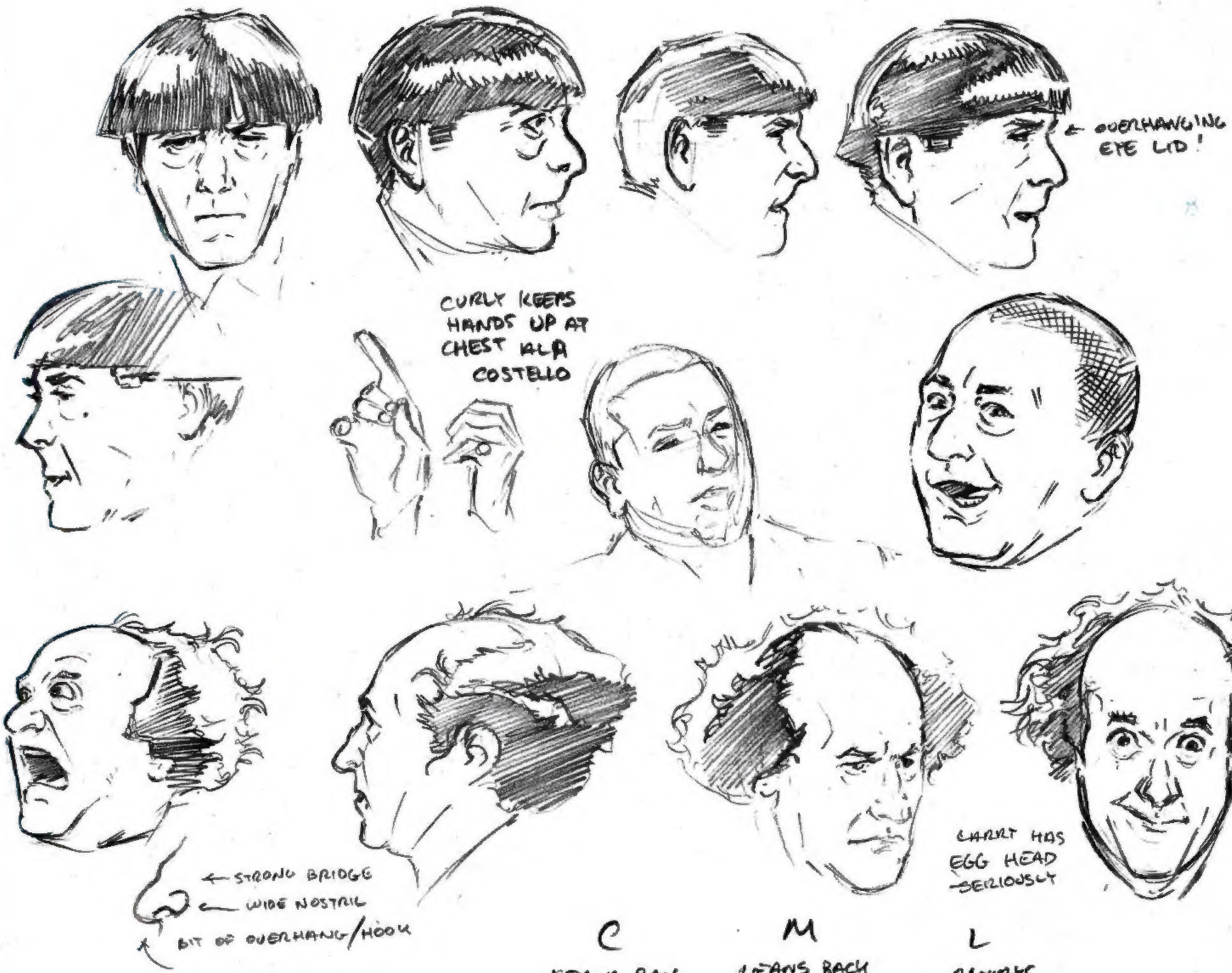
YOU BOYS HAVE GOT A JOB WITH ME FOREVER IF YOU WANT IT!
LET'S ASK CURLY JOE...!

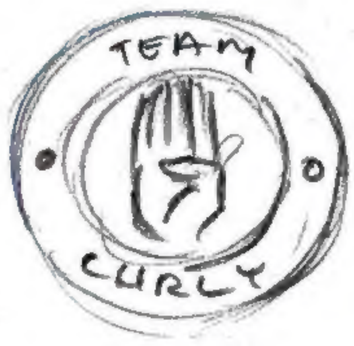
HEY, JOE... THE CIRCUS MANAGER JUST OFFERED US A FULL-TIME JOB!
YEAH! WHAT DO YOU SAY?

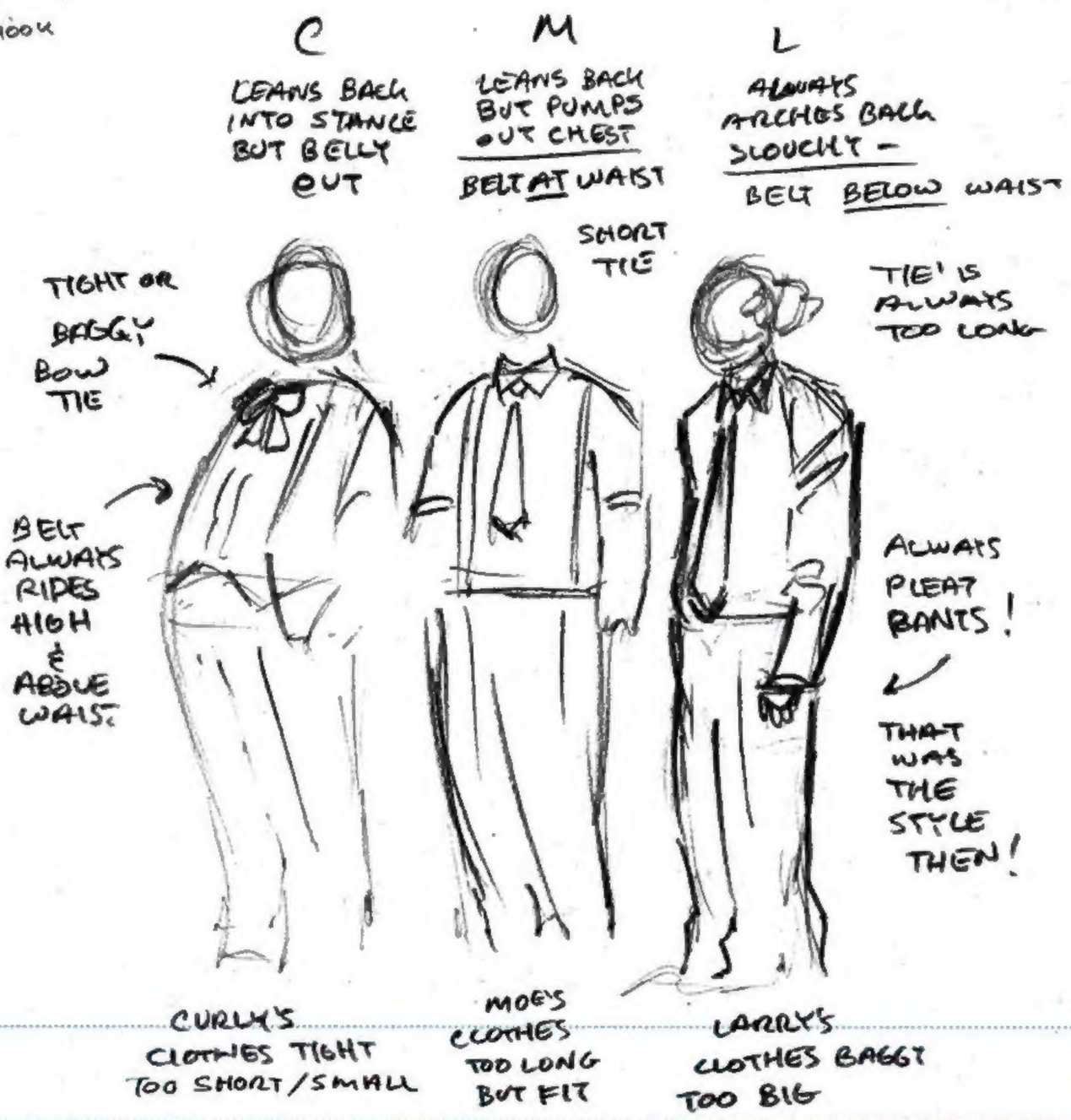

RRRRROOOOWWW! I SAY *NO!* I CAN'T STAND *HEIGHTS!* GET ME OUT OF HERE... IT'S DINNER-TIME AND I THINK THE TIGERS ARE PLANNING ME FOR THE *MAIN COURSE!*
DON'T BE SO CONCEITED! THEY'RE ONLY THINKING OF YOU FOR THE *APPETIZER!*

Here's a look inside the making of American Mythology's Three Stooges comics! All of our artists and writers are fans first. S.L. Gallant put together this beautiful study of The Three Stooges expressions and clothes to help create the very best new comics!









Chris Scalf is a brilliant comic book illustrator and painter.

Follow along with the evolution of his amazing Three Stooges cover here from pencils to shading to full color art! Amazing!

SON OF ULTRON